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BIRMINGHAM AND WESTMINSTER.

The Birmingham demonstration is over. The resumed session has begun, and to-night there is the Lord Mayor's Banquet, at which the Prime Minister will, according to custom, take stock of the situation. This concurrence of circumstances makes it interesting to extend the political purview a little, and to ask how the two parties stand at this moment *vis-à-vis* to each other; what we have taken at Birmingham; and how our gains there, if any, will act upon the situation at Westminster.

The Birmingham demonstration has been more of a physical display than a political departure. There has been no new programme framed; no new presentment of policy offered. The Caucus did indeed hold its sittings and pass its resolutions; but all this was naturally—perhaps even necessarily—postponed to the interest felt in Mr. Gladstone himself. Mr. Gladstone in his turn did not make use of the occasion for any new departure. He did not strike out from the well-worn ruts of old controversy into any new region of policy. He neither presented Home Rule in any new light, nor, with the possible exception of a leaning towards payment of members, did he declare himself for any new development of the Liberal policy outside Ireland. In the absence of any such sources of interest the Birmingham demonstration simplified itself into a parade—a parade of Mr. Gladstone's amazing physical vigour on the one hand, and of popular enthusiasm for him on the other. This double parade is, however, very far indeed from having been an empty show. On the contrary, it is, in each aspect, a political factor of prime importance. In the first place, the evidence given this week of Mr. Gladstone's undiminished health and strength will be a bitter disappointment to every Unionist of the baser sort. The Unionist policy is nothing but a policy of despair, tempered by reliance upon death. No candid Unionist denies that the by-elections have been damning, that the tide of popular opinion is on the turn, and that if Mr. Gladstone lives he is certain to come back on the top of the wave. But the Unionists pin all their faith on that "if." Mr. Gladstone may die before the dissolution; or if he does not, he will be too worn out—this latter, if we remember right, was Lord Randolph's calculation—to drive Home Rule through. It is an ignoble calculation, at the best; but in the light of the Birmingham performances must it not be dismissed as illogical also? If there is anything which Birmingham has "demonstrated," it is that Mr. Gladstone is as full of "go" as ever, and that if it is to be a race between him and the Septennial Act, he is bound, humanly speaking, to beat it hollow.

This demonstration will be a serious blow to the Unionist hopes for the future. The other feature of the Birmingham parade ought to lead to a serious hindrance to their plans in the present. It is often said that "great enthusiasm" and "grand meetings" and "glorious receptions" are perfectly worthless as political forces. So in themselves they are; but where they count is in bracing both leaders and followers for efforts that are not worthless. The lieutenants who sat around Mr. Gladstone in Bingley Hall or drove with him yesterday through the Black Country can hardly have failed to have received a fresh stimulus, and to bring back an added confidence. There is plenty of need in the House of Commons now and at once for vigorous opposition, and this is how Birmingham should react upon Westminster. The *Times* makes an urgent and almost a piteous plea this morning for the immediate extension of the Ashbourne Act. The more reasonable Tories are in favour of compromising with the Opposition, and will urge the Government to postpone this contentious business in exchange for a promise to hasten the recess. But the pressure on the other side led by the *Times* on behalf of the Irish landlords will be very strong, and is likely enough to prevail. It is the duty of the Opposition to let it be clearly seen at once that every form of Parliament will be stretched to the utmost to postpone the contemplated raid upon the ratepayers' pocket. One great objection to any extension of the Ashbourne Act is most opportunely illustrated by the evidence given by one of the witnesses before the Parnell Commission yesterday. Mr. Robert Bottrell is a Galway landowner. In 1878-9 there was great distress among his tenantry. He did not reduce any of their rents; but what he did do was to distribute among them a Relief Fund, to which, however, he himself did not subscribe. In other words, the charitable public were mulcted in order to keep up Mr. Bottrell's rents. This, on a small scale, is what the Government want to do on a large scale. They want to put their hands into the pockets of the English ratepayers in order to secure to the Irish landlords the cash value down of their inflated rents. The first thing that the enthusiasm generated at Birmingham should do is to stimulate the most stubborn opposition to this scheme at Westminster.

FREE MEALS FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN.

A Lesson from Paris. By Mr. H. M. Hyndman.

The recent vote at the Conference called by the Metropolitan Radical Federation in favour of giving at least one free meal to the children in all the Board schools in London is a remarkable instance of the growth of public opinion. When this was first proposed as part of a definite programme by the Social Democratic Federation, nearly everybody laughed at the idea, and Radicals in particular scouted the notion of feeding the children gratuitously in addition to educating them gratuitously as absurd. Now the suggestion is well within the charmed, if rather narrow, circle of "practical politics," and I am personally confident that if what we wish to do could be brought home to the majority of the electors for the London School Board the advanced candidates would be carried by an overwhelming majority. In any case, what has already been done in Paris in the direction of free education and free meals is not uninstructive at a time when the struggle against organized reaction in London is so close upon us.

Education, so far as regards primary education, is now compulsory and gratuitous throughout France. The direction of education in Paris and the Department of the Seine is in the hands of the Prefect, of the Vice-rector of the Academy of Paris, and of the Departmental Council of Public Instruction. The Prefect nominates the teachers, but the Vice-rector controls the system of instruction, and has under his orders an Inspector, who sits with the Prefect, and is virtually at the head of the primary education of the Department of the Seine. Education of every description has vastly improved in France of late years, and the free primary schools are very good of their kind. With respect, however, to the treatment of poor children and the provision of food in the schools, arrangements have been made, under the authority of the Municipal Council of Paris—answering to our coming County Council for London—which are somewhat remarkable, when we bear in mind that out of eighty-eight municipal councillors only ten are Socialists, but fifteen advanced Radicals, and the remainder Opportunists, Reactionists, &c. What has been already achieved shows, in fact, what a resolute, logical minority may obtain by argument and persuasion even on a Council where the majority of the members are nominally their bitter opponents.

In London, as we all know, if the father or the mother of a family, not manifestly belonging to the non-producing classes, is unable or unwilling to send the children of a teachable age to school, he or she is summoned before the magistrate, and in many cases, such as I have myself witnessed, where the hardship was obvious to every one in court, is fined or sent to prison. Thus matters are made still worse for the children than they were before, to say nothing of the parents. In a few instances, no doubt, the fees are remitted, but beyond that nothing is done except by private charity, no matter how necessitous the family may be. It has, nevertheless, been shown time after time by official statistics that a fearful percentage of the children in this metropolis go to school, not only without proper clothing, but without any food, or with so little as to be of no account, yet they have no means of getting supplied with either garments or meals. Such a state of things is quite impossible in Paris—in unpractical, utopian, revolutionary Paris. Primary education there is free, and no fees have to be paid by the parents, but inasmuch as it is compulsory the authorities hold that it is directly to the interest of the community at large that the children should not only be forced to go to school, but that they should attend in such a physical condition as to be able to take advantage of and not be injured by the teaching. This is now accepted as an axiom in educational matters, strange as it may seem to "political economists."

Parents in Paris, therefore, who fail to send their children to school, are not summoned before a police magistrate, to undergo a public and humiliating examination, which partakes almost of the nature of a criminal investigation. They are only required to give an account of themselves to the Commission Scolaire, which is composed of ordinary citizens in

each arrondissement. If it is then found that the father and mother are really too poor to provide the children with proper clothes and boots in which to go to school, then such boots and clothes are at once provided for the children gratuitously, and all excuse on this head is removed. Then, of course, it becomes clearly reasonable, even to the most sensitive philanthropist, that parents who would selfishly prevent their children from receiving the good and gratuitous primary education provided at the public expense for their benefit should be punished. The Commission Scolaire, with this power of summoning parents before it and of providing necessary apparel for the children, sits in every arrondissement of Paris.

The question of free meals is at present in a position which may be regarded as one of reasonable compromise. "Cantines Scolaires"—school kitchens—have been established in connection with every school to provide meals for the children. For these meals ten centimes each (say a penny) is paid, the food being cooked on the spot. The distribution is managed in this way. Each child goes up to the teacher in turn, and receives its ticket in return for its penny. If, however, any child is too poor to be able to pay the penny, the teacher is informed of this beforehand, and the poor children receive their tickets in precisely the same way and at the same time as those whose parents have been able to pay for them, nor is it known to their companions that they are in receipt of free meals. When the tickets have been given out the scholars pass by the canteen, and the man in charge serves out to each one his or her portion in a basin. The food varies in the different arrondissements, being much better in some, accordingly as the contractor is honest or not. Ordinarily the portions consist of sausage and lentils or meat with vegetables, in both cases accompanied by a big bit of bread. Each child goes off with its portion and eats it. Hitherto fingers have served as forks for the majority, but Dr. Brousse, the Socialist municipal councillor, is trying to get forks provided in his arrondissement, and if allowed there, they will no doubt be adopted elsewhere. An attempt is also being made to take the supplying of the meals out of the hands of contractors in order to prevent any tampering with the food. Thus every child in Paris whose parents are too poor to clothe and feed it well enough to go to school is sure of being fairly clothed at the public cost and of receiving a sufficient meal at about a quarter to twelve o'clock each school day without payment. The experience of these meals in the "Cantines Scolaires" has been the same as everywhere else. They have a distinctly good educational effect. The children improve in every respect, and the parents are in no sense pauperized owing to the acceptance by the municipal and other authorities of Paris of the strange facts—1. That you cannot educate starving children; 2. That healthy children are even more valuable to the community than "educated" children.

The Municipal Council of Paris at present votes 300,000 f., or £12,000 a year, in aid of these free meals, and the total funds for this purpose, and for giving clothes to ragged and naked children, are provided partly by private benefactions and partly by public grants. All who give 6 f. a year to the general education fund belong to the council or commission of the arrondissement, and grants are made from the "Caisse des Eccles" to the "Cantines Scolaires." Thus a sum of about £20,000 a year is given for this purpose, and there seems every probability that the amount will be largely increased in the near future even if a general system of free meals in the schools be not shortly adopted. It would surely be well worth the while of the London School Board, or of the County Council for London, when we get it, to send over a special deputation to Paris in order to examine into the working of the "Cantines Scolaires" and the arrangements for supplying clothes and boots to the needy children. At the same time attention might be paid to the really admirable and most effective manner in which voluntary gifts and voluntary services are organized and made available for the general benefit under municipal or State control, seeing that this is a point where we practical Englishmen are sadly weak. There is much more being done in Paris for the general education of the workers, and for their benefit in other ways, to which I should like to draw attention at another time. I think, however, I have said enough to show that the problem of finding food and clothes for poor children without injury to them, their parents, or the community is in a fair way to be solved on the other side of the Channel.

*WESTBURY—LORD CHANCELLOR AND "MAN OF GENIUS."**

A BIOGRAPHY, written in reversion, of a Lord Chancellor as well as of "a man of genius who had gone to the bar," as the late Sir George Jessel described Westbury, appearing fifteen years after his death, and "mainly treated as that of a public man whose career is inseparably connected with the legal history of his time," may seem heavily weighted in these days of mere gossip-loving and literary scampering. But Mr. Nash has done his work carefully, with unpretending candour, and with considerable dignity and success. We do not regret that Mr. Kennard's memoir was never published. The story of a law reformer, however, is apt to be dull, and, in the present case, it is the man of genius that saves the whole. The caustic wit that made enemies in Westbury's lifetime will make friends over his remains; and we can heartily enjoy the narrative that gives point to the epitaph said to have been suggested by Sir Philip Rose, of the Christian, Statesman, and Judge who abolished the old methods of conveying land, the Insolvents' Court, and "The Eternity of Punishment," as well as "dismissed hell with costs, and took away from orthodox members of the Church of England their last hope of everlasting damnation." The recital of Westbury's law-reforms and great cases is interesting enough, and Mr. Nash has not overdone it, but the biography is best for its side lights, its personal features, and its fresh evidences of Westbury's vitality and versatility. Richard Bethell lamented that the legal men of his day wanted physique. The lawyers "who could stand anything" were wearing out. He was himself a living protest against the observation. There was good stock in him. A distant relative fell under Dryden's lash as Shimei, a sheriff who would not pack juries, and kept a poor kitchen, and his father, Dr. Bethell, of Bradford-on-Avon, was courageous enough not to use the lancet when men were bled for everything, from a fever to a pimple. The son began life a delicate boy, was educated on £12 a year, went to Oxford at fourteen, a prodigy in a round jacket and frilled collar, considered old enough to subscribe the Thirty-nine Articles, but too young to take the oath of obedience to the university statutes. At seventeen he became B.A., at twenty-two a coach and a Fellow of Wadham, and at twenty-four he was called to the Bar, first practising in the Equity Court. He had a mincing manner, a precise and measured style of address, but he was clever, painstaking, cool, and self-confident. He made a hundred guineas during his first year, and went on doubling his income each successive year. His father was confident he would have a distinguished career. Others thought differently, and this is one of the candid criticisms of his friends, "What a fine head the man has, and what a pity there's so little in it." His "man millinery" style deceived some people, yet young men from the university crowded the courts to hear him. His sarcasms were constant, and once he came very near a duel with a tenant for some contemptuous remarks about "pots and pans." Kind friends marked him out for public life long before he had thought about it himself. Beaten by Mr. R. B. Sheridan at Shaftesbury, he finally stood for Aylesbury successfully, but told one of his friends that he had been praying ever since noon that he might not be returned. The Conservative club rejected him for apostasy, and he was elected unsolicited to Brooks's. His early political views had been indefinite, but henceforth he was a pronounced Liberal with a penchant for law reform. In two sessions he became Solicitor-General. Lord Campbell said of him, "Bethell hardly attempts to disguise his eagerness to clutch the Great Seal." This was untrue and ill-natured. As Attorney-General, after pushing forward many legal reforms, he had his great joust with Mr. Gladstone over the Divorce Bill, a brilliant affair. Mr. Gladstone met him in the lobby, and in reply to the question, "Is it peace or war?" said "War, Mr. Attorney; war even to the knife!" Writing to a friend, Bethell said: "I have had to maintain my ground and vindicate one of the worst drawn, most miserably expressed bills I ever saw in my life against a host. Gladstone's violence also gave a vehement personal character to the debates." After he had transferred himself to Wolverhampton to escape defeat at Aylesbury, Lord Palmerston again became Premier, but could not do without Bethell, so Campbell was made Lord Chancellor. "Pam offered to give me a note, saying I was to have a right to succeed after Campbell," he wrote; "I never got it, however." Meeting Campbell in a fur coat at the time Bethell affected not to know him. "I beg your pardon, my lord," he said; "I mistook you for the *Great Seal*." What with Bankruptcy Bills and Land Transfer Bills, Bethell was fully occupied, though he read classics in his leisure with his son. In June, 1861, Lord Campbell's death cleared the way, and he became Lord Chancellor, prouder, as he said, to have realized his father's hopes than to have reached so lofty a height. In the first speech he made he lectured the peers on their ignorance of bankruptcy law, just as he assured Bishop Wilberforce that clergymen could not have a disease of the mind, and that if such a thing were possible he had never met a clergyman, "with the exception of your lordship, who had a mind." A law reformer in earnest, Westbury was full of projects for revising and consolidating the statutes; he was the first to suggest authorized law reports, and he took the lead in concentrating our law courts on their present site. He did not approve of one court committing injustice and another court running after it to stop it in its course. The first Catholic judge, Mr. Shee, was appointed by him, and he fought for many popular reforms. The painful circumstances of his resignation are fully narrated by Mr. Nash. As a judge he was shrewd and discriminating, as an advocate he was cool, subtle, and convincing, and as a private man he lived a natural, healthy, and happy life. Mr. Gladstone has bracketed him for ability with Cardinal Wiseman. Palmerston thought him indispensable, and even the vanquished relished his wit. Fechter's Othello so distressed him that he never wanted to see another tragedy. He scorned "the rag-pickers of society;" occasionally, as with Hazlitt's, his jest "scalded like tears;" when he retired he learnt French and Italian for "amusement;" though his speeches were spoken essays, his letters are fresh and charming and undated. "You are only a long-shore sailor," said Palmerston; "you date your letter without longitude or latitude;" and his abilities were of such a shining and complete kind that he would have made a mark in any sphere. In truth, he was lawyer, politician, and "man of genius."

* "The Life of Richard Lord Westbury, formerly Lord High Chancellor." By Thomas Arthur Nash, B.A. Two volumes. (Richard Bentley and Son. 1888.)

DOING THE DOLLERIES.

ROUND AND ROUND A GIGANTIC DOLL SHOW.

AT the corner of Great Ormond-street, next to the Hospital for Sick Children, an enormous marquee has been erected, and in it will be opened, shortly after four o'clock this afternoon, a beauty show, which we venture to think will be a striking contrast to the beauty show which recently failed so disastrously at Spa. Princess Frederica, who opens the show, will also distribute the three prizes and the two special prizes, one of which is to be awarded to competitors attired in hospital uniform, and the other to those whose attire has been the handiwork of children under fourteen. Nor is it likely that these beauties, like those assembled at the Belgian watering-place, will fall out on account of the prizes, for they are one and all exhibits of a gigantic doll show, which is held in order to raise £15,000 for the building of a new wing to the hospital, the authorities of which are anxious to extend their good work of alleviating the sufferings of the little ones, large numbers of whom have at present to be turned away from the doors, merely for want of accommodation.

HELP WANTED FOR POOR LITTLE CHILDREN.

The very ground on which the marquee stands is sacred by associations of the past and by hopes for the future. It was here where, in 1852, the original hospital was opened, which contained ten beds only, and which, after some time, had to be pulled down on account of being unfit for habitation. £25,000 is to be the entire cost of the new wing, but the governors of the hospital have granted permission for the commencement of the building as soon as £15,000 has been raised. Of this sum £6,000 was raised by means of the Children's Jubilee Tribute, and now once again the fortunate and healthy children have come to the front at an appeal by Miss Hicks, the lady superintendent of the hospital, to help the unfortunate sick little ones to whom the hospital is devoted.

THREE CHEERS FOR THE QUEEN OF THE SHOW.

On six large stalls the dolls are set out, and according to their social status they have taken their place among the artists, the foreigners, the children, the fairies, the nurses, or the medley mass of competitors, some of whom belong to each of the different classes. The "Queen of the Show" is undoubtedly a lady representing Good Queen Bess, in gown of rich brocade, with the orthodox gigantic ruffle setting off her pretty head and her bejewelled hair. Her sleeves and front petticoat gleam with the subdued light of a wealth of pearls, as graciously she thrones above all other dolls on her stall. Among the loyal subjects on whom she looks down is a strangely apparelled little Kaffir lady, who is—we beg her pardon for going into such personal but unavoidable details—entirely made of what are evidently African beads. Her eyes, which are large and very much *en évidence*, do obviously not owe their bright lustre to the Birmingham district, where, we are told, English dolls get their shining orbs; to her neck may, without flattery, the epithet of "swan-like" be applied, and, in common with the proverbial Queen of Spain, she "has no legs."

KAFFIR BABIES IN BRIGHT TIN PLATES.

In order to save the little stranger from feeling home-sick amidst so many strangers, a Kaffir kraal has kindly been built up near to where, Kaffir fashion, she reclines on the ground, and in the kraal, among the dusky natives, there is a charming little scene enacted by two cleanly pigs, aspiring to eat with large ladles out of a tin saucepan, a proceeding which, if it is habitual with Kaffir pigs, interferes in no way with their sleek appearance. A fashion of presenting Kaffir babies to the view of the public on neat tin plates is also charmingly represented. Another distinguished foreigner is a little Celestial, with a delightfully humorous expression on his round face, which loses nothing of its brightness although he is seated in a rather humiliating manner among a number of young exhibitors not belonging to the autocracy of wealth, if one may judge by their outward appearance.

A GOOD WORD FOR A JERUSALEM JEWESS.

National costumes are favoured by so many gentlemen and ladies of the show that it is difficult to single any one out for special notice, but we feel bound to say a good word for a tall Jerusalem Jewess, whose mauve cap, trimmed with gay flowers and sparkling stones, and yellow shoes, together with her red coat, the tails of which are modestly spread over the wide "divided" skirt, blazes forth a wealth of Oriental colour. A really dainty little lady is the "Lady of Fashion," whose creator has certainly succeeded in making the best of the fashions of the present time in a costume forming a charming study in dark red and grey, and to the perfection of which no detail is lacking. Prince Albert Victor will be proud to hear that he is to be obtained at the price of 5*s*., sailor suit and all, as he appeared at the youthful age of six; but should he consider himself rather out of place in the company of little "fairies" of the ballet and other pretty plebeian maidens, we are able to inform him that Princess Mary, daughter of Charles I. (after Vandyke) is near at hand, upholding, in her rich costume, the dignity of at least one English dynasty.

"OH, M'M, WE ALWAYS DRESSES FOR THE DOCTOR."

Last, but in no way least, there are the nurses—the neat, bright-eyed, busy nurses in their becoming, simple costumes, and armed with all manner of harmless little instruments, often contained in the tiniest *nécessaire*. And above them looms a red-faced, dowdy personage, carrying a pair of clods and looking very aggressive, who represents the nurse of former days, the woman to whom is mainly due the extreme reluctance, which is still prevalent among many of the poor, of patients to go to a hospital, and one of whom, when asked, many years ago, by the lady superintendent of a great London hospital why at a certain hour of the morning she appeared always in her best frock and adorned with a bunch of flowers, "Oh, m'm, we always dresses for the doctor."

SCULPTURE AT THE "ARTS AND CRAFTS."

THE most satisfactory thing in Mr. Simonds's lecture last night was the peroration in which he told the audience that "an artist cannot be made." But for this well-timed warning some deluded people might have gone away under the impression that sculpture was a sort of mechanical process within the reach of the meanest capabilities. For it must be confessed that Mr. Simonds's lecture was at once too elementary and too elaborately technical. The ordinary art-student, even the ordinary studio-loafer, could not have learned anything from it, while the "cultured person," of whom there were many specimens present, could not but have felt a little bored at the careful and painfully clear descriptions given by the lecturer of very well-known and uninteresting methods of work. However, Mr. Simonds did his best. He described modelling in clay and wax; casting in plaster and in metal; how to enlarge and how to diminish to scale; bas-reliefs and working in the round; the various kinds of marble, their qualities, and characteristics; how to reproduce in marble the plaster or clay bust; how to use the point, the drill, the wire, and the chisel; and the various difficulties attending each process. He exhibited a clay bust of Mr. Walter Crane on which he did some elementary work; a bust of Mr. Parsons; a small statuette; several moulds; and an interesting diagram of the furnace used by Balthazar Keller for casting a great equestrian statue of Louis XIV. in 1697-8. What his lecture lacked were ideas. Of the artistic value of each material; of the correspondence between material or method and the imaginative creative faculty seeking to find expression; of the capacities for realism and idealism that reside in each material; of the historical and human side of the art he said nothing. He showed the various instruments and how they are used, but he treated them entirely as instruments for the hand. He never once brought his subject into any relation either with art or with life. He explained forms of labour, and forms of saving labour. He showed the various methods as they might be used by an artisan. Mr. Morris last week, while explaining the technical processes of weaving, never forgot that he was lecturing on an art. He not merely taught his audience but he charmed them. However the audience gathered together last night at the "Arts and Crafts Exhibition" seemed very much interested, at least they were very attentive, and Mr. Walter Crane made a short speech at the conclusion, in which he expressed his satisfaction that in spite of modern machinery sculpture had hardly altered one of its tools. For our own part we cannot help regretting the extremely commonplace character of the lecture. If a man lectures on poets he should not confine his remarks purely to grammar. Next week Mr. Emery Walker lectures on printing. We hope, indeed we are sure, that he will not forget that it is an art, or rather that it was an art once, and can be made so again.

SOME ART MAGAZINES.

THE *Magazine of Art* (Cassell) enters upon a new volume this month, and is a very attractive number. Mr. Cosmo Monkhouse begins a series of papers on Mr. Gilbert, A.R.A., and we are given several charming illustrations from the sculptor's earlier works. Mrs. Pennell contributes one of her pleasantly written papers on "Wells and its Cathedral," illustrated by one bird's-eye view—more clever than pleasing—from her husband's pencil, and several others by Mr. C. E. Mallows. A paper on the Walker Art Gallery at Liverpool gives an excuse for excellent reproductions from some famous modern masterpieces. Mr. W. M. Rossetti's illustrated article—the first of a series—on portraits of his brother is extremely curious and interesting. The pencil drawing of Dante Rossetti by himself at the age of eighteen is particularly charming—it is the portrait of a true poet by a true artist. Mr. Lewis F. Day's paper on "Insignia of Mayoralty" is timely; another year the editor might do a real service to Londoners by illustrating various pageants and processions, and thus giving a hint for future Lord Mayors Shows. The critical portion of the magazine is supplied by two R.A.'s. Mr. Frith, R.A., writes some excellent common-sense on "the real aim and end of art;" but incidentally makes one too sweeping assertion. "Terburg's subjects," he says, "if they can be called subjects at all, are of the most trifling character;" but what more important subject could Terburg have chosen than "The Peace of Münster" (his chief work in the National Gallery)? There is a similar note of common-sense in the "Modern Thoughts" which Mr. J. E. Hodgson, R.A., contributes on "Old Arts." "Art-writing to interest the world must be written," he says, "from the front of the proscenium." What a blessing it would be to the general reader if art-critics would act on this precept, instead of confining themselves to the jargon of the artistic green-room! Finally, we should certainly not omit to mention the excellent etching of Meissonier's "The Painting," which forms the frontispiece to the new volume. It will be seen from this summary of the contents that the present number is true to the best traditions of a magazine which combines with excellence of illustration and freshness of subject a high order of literary merit.

The *Art Journal* (Virtue)—which ends its volume more conveniently with the end of the year—is somewhat heavily weighted with the fag-ends of serial articles. One very useful article, however, is a summary of the art sales of 1888. But could not space be found another year for setting out the matter in tabular form? If there ought to be one law against books without indexes, there ought to be another against tables given in an un-tabular form.

Artistic Japan (Sampson Low) is a treasury of quaint designs and pretty colours. But does not Mr. Huish (who is the English editor) rather over-do Japan by giving so much space to it in the *Art Journal* also? An editor of one idea is even worse than a man of one book.

The *Scottish Art Review* (Glasgow: Kerr and Richardson) is fully up to the high level which we were able to mark last month. The plates this time are Rossetti's "Silence" and Mr. Burne-Jones's "Wood Nymph"—both very characteristic examples.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

We hope Lord Salisbury will take the opportunity of the Lord Mayor's banquet to make some categorical explanation about his offensive alliance with Germany on the East African coast. It is clear that in Berlin they do not intend to limit operations to the sea and the coast, any more than they limit the object of such operations to the ostensible pretext of philanthropy. "A blockade without the complementary organization of a settled land force is regarded, in Berlin, it seems, "with no slight misgiving;" for it is not seen how "a mere blockade of a coast, even if it put a stop to the export of slaves, *will serve to reinstate the German Company in its previous possessions.*" Is this to be part of our objects, or is it not? Mr. W. H. Smith, indeed, has already said, No; but then, just as Lord Salisbury does not always know what Mr. Smith is after (as when the latter burked his Leader's House of Lords Reform Bill), so Mr. Smith may not always know what Lord Salisbury is after. Therefore the Prime Minister will do well to speak out to-night for himself.

Another matter for which Lord Salisbury's speech will be closely scrutinized is the result of the Special Committee of the Cabinet on National Defence, over which he has been presiding. It is said this morning that an immediate increase in the navy has been decided upon, and that eight ironclads, twenty swift cruisers, and a large number of torpedo boats are to be put in hand at once. In fact, Lord George Hamilton is going to do in 1888 as Lord Northbrook did in 1884. So far, so good; but it is not altogether a pleasant thought than an agitation in the press should be necessary once every four years to wake Governments up to the most essential and elementary of their duties—the duty, namely, of putting the Empire in a proper posture of defence.

The correspondent of the *Standard* who tries to upset Mr. Gladstone's electoral calculations by pointing to the omission of the uncontested seats, stumbles himself into a terrible pitfall. For though in the uncontested elections the Unionists had a large majority of *seats*, the Liberals had a majority of *votes*. So far as it is possible to calculate, the following are the figures:—Liberals, 630,026; Unionists, 616,611. That is exclusive of Parnellite votes; if these were added, there would be 286,910 more to give to the Liberals. It will thus be seen that the neglected factor to which the *Standard's* correspondent triumphantly calls attention would have strengthened Mr. Gladstone's case. Why should Unionist calculators be constantly falling into these blunders when they have only to consult the "Popular Guide to the House of Commons" to keep them straight?

A good instance of the extreme tenderness of the present School Board towards denominational schools is afforded by a recent case. The Board has a rule that the managers of neighbouring voluntary schools are to be always consulted before a new school is decided upon or a site bought. This leads to a great delay. A case in point recently occurred at Hackney, and was thus reported by the *Times*:—

> The Education Department, with reference to the application of the Board a year ago for authority to abandon the sanctioned proposal to build for 1,000 children, called attention to the fact that the Board, in obtaining the sanction for provision for 1,000 children, had shown that the deficiency existed, while later, when the Board desired to provide for an acknowledged deficiency, they made the numbers requiring places much less. Her Majesty's inspector said;—"I cannot think that these figures are correct, as the population in this part of London continually increases. But suppose they are correct, there still remains a deficiency of nearly 1,000 places, and this deficiency would be decidedly larger by the time the Board could open the school. I recommend that the Board be advised to carry into effect their original proposal."

The Board refused, however, to adopt the inspector's recommendation. They would sooner leave school children unprovided for than poach on the preserves of the denominational schools!

"Pepa," the new play at the Français, by MM. Meilhac and Ganderax, is simplicity itself, so far as construction is concerned. It is what Captain Marryat would call a "quadrangular duel of four." A and B are a divorced husband and wife, C and D are an unmarried lady and gentleman. The question is, will A marry C and B marry D? or will A and B discover that their divorce is a mistake and remarry each other, leaving C and D to follow their example? Unfortunately there is from the outset no question about the matter. It is quite evident that M and Mdme. de Chambreuil are going to make it up, and that Mademoiselle Pepa and Jacques de Guerche are destined for each other. Consequently the witty and ingenious scenes through which the action is developed seem only to retard the foreseen solution. Moreover Pepa's uncle, Don Ramiro Vasquez, Envoy Extraordinary of the Republic of Terras Calientes, was felt to be a character for the Folies-Dramatiques rather than for the Français. The costumes of Mdlle. Reichemberg as Pepa and Mdlle. Bartet as Mdme. de Chambreuil were of unexampled gorgeousness, and we are assured that the tobacco-tinted trousers worn by M. Febvre as Chambreuil were made in London, while M. Féraudy, as Don Ramiro, "a fait venir du Strand son chapeau gris."

Mr. Matthews seems to have turned over a new leaf at last! Last night he actually ventured to publicly snub his old ally Sir Charles Warren from his seat in the House of Commons! He said, in answer to Mr. Atherley-Jones, that it was against the rules issued by a late Home Secretary that any officer attached to the Department should publish any "work" relating thereto without permission. Sir Charles Warren had broken this rule, and when taxed with so doing, had pleaded that he "was not aware of the existence of the rule;" upon which, said Mr. Matthews, "I have drawn his attention to it, and required him to comply with it." It will be interesting to see whether the next prisoner run in by Sir Charles will be let off by the magistrate on the ground that he did not know he was doing wrong. Meanwhile, the modified rebuke administered last night by Mr. Matthews to his insubordinate subordinate should give fresh point to the debate to-night on Mr. Monro's resignation.

"The news of Sir H. A. Blake's appointment to the Governorship of the colony has been received with general indignation and astonishment. Sir Thomas M'Ilwraith adds that Sir S. W. Griffith, the ex-Premier, agrees in condemning the appointment." So say the telegrams this morning, and it is a very ugly saying. No doubt the Queenslanders are mistaken in objecting to Sir H. A. Blake, but it is nevertheless most unfortunate that their objection should not have been listened to. The matter had, it seems, been mentioned at the Colonial Office, but "Lord Knutsford replied that it was impossible that Colonial Ministers should share in the responsibility of nominating a Governor." But the fact that the Colonial Office has the whole responsibility is no reason why it should not listen to advice. The personality of Colonial Governors is a matter of immense importance; and the appointment of a few "ungrateful persons" would do more in a separatist direction than any quantity of fine talking could do towards federation.

ZOLA.

A lifelong task to paint the woes of men
With lurid flashes here and there of light.
Spurner of lies, he scorns the silky pen
That glosses shameful ills, and calls wrong right
To suit the prudish ears of rich and sleek.

The noblest statecraft that which strains the laws
To cheat the vision, shield the burning cheek,
Careless the while of red and poisonous sores
Which eat the souls of men, cursing the race
Through crowded generations—while tongues lie.

O spirit of Voltaire, crime and disgrace
Live not in deeds, so they strike not the eye,
Vice is no vice let virtue be but blind,
Smile your eternal smile, and scathe mankind.

Nov. 5, 1888. R. B. B.

The Doctors of Divinity who discussed the other day at Manchester the long question of Man's future state, and what Canon Luckock, who opened the debate, elegantly called the "salvability of the heathen," may be pleased to read the following epitaph which marks the grave of a British *poco-curante*, who, it is to be hoped, was none the less a salvable heathen, in a little churchyard in Devonshire:—

Pray for the soul of Gabriel John,
Who died in 1801:
But if you'd rather let it alone
It's all the same to Gabriel John,
Who died in 1801.

Has Mr. Ritchie unconsciously solved the problem as to how Home Rulers shall act in an Imperial Parliament? There is a little clause in the Local Government Act dealing with the duties of City Councillors on the London County Council which seems to convey a pregnant hint. They are "not to act or vote in respect of any question regarding matters on account of which the parishes in the City are not liable to the county contributions." On matters affecting all London, and for which all London is to contribute—that is, Imperial matters—they will act and vote with all the other Councillors. But for its own affairs the City prefers Home Rule. For these (such as police) these City County Councillors will retire unmolested to the Common Council or elsewhere. The only Imperial intervention with the City is in reference to the appointment of its judges and the sanction given to its election of its Prime Minister, the Mayor. Let contribution to Imperial purposes be the test, and, with a little care, the question of retaining the Irish members at Westminster, together with an Irish Legislative Assembly at Dublin, seems to be solved. Will Mr. Goschen, who has helped to this solution in regard to City Home Rulers on the London Imperial Council, think it so ridiculous when applied elsewhere?

SCENES IN THE STREETS.

THE study of itinerant street-vendors is one always fraught with deepest interest to the student of human nature. Take a walk through one of the main thoroughfares of our vast city and note them. If it should be early morning you will be sure to meet with a sturdy Irishwoman carrying her bonnet in her hand and a great bundle of watercresses,

"WATERCRESSES."

tied up in a clean apron, on her head. This is her daily supply, just obtained from Covent Garden Market.

"DEAD LARKS."

Should you chance to enter a City restaurant about 9 A.M. you may meet with that most affable of persons, with the low voice and gentle tread, whose mission in life is that of vending "dead larks" and "red-wings" for the paltry consideration of two shillings per dozen, "warranted sound."

A curious study, too, is that of the old lady always standing outside the Bank of England, whose wares consist of wash-leather cash-bags. What can be her daily reflections each time she, meekly and most thankfully, parts with one of her neat and clean little contrivances for a penny to some over-fed opulent, who a moment or so

"CASH BAGS."

after, in her imagination, will fill that same specimen of her handicraft with "untold gold"?

"LACES AND BUTTONS."

In Cheapside, weather permitting, you may meet with a dozen, or more, boot-lace, stud and shirt-button vendors, chiefly white-faced, grave-eyed Jews, whose wares are obtained in Houndsditch in very small quantities at a time; the working capital of these very humble merchants being at the briskest of times of infinitesimal proportions.

"ONLY A PENNY."

In the Strand, on a very cold day, I chanced to sketch a young woman, who held her sleeping infant, wrapped tightly in her shawl, closely to her warm breast, while she offered "Waterbury pencils" of gigantic proportions for "a penny apiece."

"LIGHTS."

The decrepit old creature, with ulster of faded splendour over a terribly ragged skirt, can be seen any day shambling along Fleet-street, the Strand, or Charing-cross, holding a "box o' lights" in her hand, but never looking to the right or left, and never seeming to part with that one solitary box, which always appears to represent the whole of her stock-in-trade.

The wandering reciter, who would go through the whole range of Shakspeare's plays, and with the happiest impartiality mixing them all up together in the space of ten minutes, is now unhappily no more. The poor fellow did not end his days on "Bosworth Field" in the style he had so often portrayed of his favourite hero, but, alas! under some cruel cart wheel in the crowded streets of London.

"KING RICHARD."

You must venture into the low "pubs" of the East-end if you wish to meet with that ever merry, bantering, and decidedly amusing de-

"FOAMING TANKARDS."

scendant of "Samivel Veller, Esq.," whose greatest delight consists in ever darting about with "foaming tankards" on a tray.

Needless to state that the "runner," with his "special hedition of the *Pall Mall*" is to be seen anywhere and everywhere, and in all seasons, darting after 'bus or cab, in imminent danger of being trampled to death

THE TRAMP.

"SPESHAL."

by confused crowds of impatient steeds at any moment, yet always emerging from intricacies of wheels and horses' feet smiling and unharmed. Truly the "runner" possesses a charmed life.

Next comes the painfully ambling tramp, exposed to all weathers, in his apparently aimless wanderings, yet who with grim persistency struggles on to the bitter end, preferring to breathe his last, mayhap, on some chilly morning, huddled

"A JOLLIFICATION."

up in his rags in a corner of some friendly doorstep, rather than enter the grim portals of the ever-dreaded "house."

The popularity of FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA is rapidly increasing, and where once tried its delicious flavour and agreeable qualities secure for it a permanent place in the household dietary. Highly recommended, by many eminent physicians, for young children and delicate persons to whom tea is injurious. To secure this article ask for FRY'S PURE CONCENTRATED COCOA.

PATCHING HOLES IN THE PEOPLE'S PURSE.

THE HOUSE AT BUSINESS. BY A SPECTATOR.

THIS was undoubtedly "Labby's sitting." It was anything but exciting, though business-like; but the economist-humourist was in evidence from first to last.

Lord Hartington is not generally numbered among the caustic satirists of the House; but he dropped a remark yesterday which was quite in that vein at the expense of the typical Ministerial answer. "Charlie" Beresford (the name has reached the theatres now, and is sung over the footlights every evening at Toole's) asked Lord Hartington some question about the Committee on army and navy administration. The noble lord, as he was not a Minister, gently deprecated the question. As, however, he added, he had very little information to give, perhaps there would be no objection to his giving an answer! Is it possible, by the way, that Lord Charles slyly intended his question to imply that if the member for Rossendale is not yet in name a member of the Government, he is yet to all intents and purposes a Tory Minister?

Mr. Picton having interrogated Mr. Smith about the Sugar Bounties Convention, and Mr. Smith's answers not proving satisfactory to Mr. Conybeare, the latter demanded bluntly whether the Government meant to stand by their pledge in this matter. "The Government," replied Mr. Smith, with fine dignity, "are in the habit of standing by their pledges." At this the Opposition laughed. But it showed that Mr. Smith is after all a man of tact. In an incautious moment he might naturally have responded to the inquiry with, "Certainly, sir." Had he so far tripped, the associations would have made it hardly possible to add the lofty sentiment about the Government's word being as good as its bond.

SNUBBING CHARLES III.

Mr. Matthews did not reject the opportunity offered him by Mr. Atherley-Jones's question about the "Good Word for Sir Charles Warren, by Sir Charles Warren," in *Murray's Magazine*, for smartly rapping his Commissioner on the knuckles. In the tail of a rather rambling explanation came the words:—

I have drawn his attention to the rule, and (mark the necessary addition; it is not enough to prove Sir Charles in the wrong, you must further force him to adopt other ways)—"and," added Mr. Matthews, REQUIRED HIM TO COMPLY WITH IT. (Cheers.)

Mr. Causton tried to pump Mr. Goschen about the van and wheel tax. But the Chancellor of the Exchequer—in the very words of the Laureate's "Day Dream"—

> The Chancellor, sedate and vain,
> In courteous phrases made reply;
> But trifled with his golden chain
> And, smiling—put the Question by.

Lucky Mr. Darling, the new member and new Scotch Solicitor-General, was led up to the table by his predecessor, now Lord Advocate. We shall miss the now ennobled and transplanted Mr. Macdonald, whose rubicund and smiling visage used to appear above his portly frame at the end of the Treasury bench. However able Mr. Robertson may be, it may safely be said that the gap which the late Lord Advocate leaves on that bench he is quite unable to fill.

THE PEOPLE'S MONEY.

The Battle of the (Blue) Books was resumed, Mr. Labouchere asking for liberty to decline the proffered cartloads. Mr. H. H. Fowler liked to have them; but that was no reason, he pleaded, why *his* doors should be blocked up. And amid laughter the member for Northampton added that no one wished to prevent Mr. Fowler reading Blue-books morning, noon, and night if he liked. Then the vote was agreed to.

The Woods and Forests vote evoked a long series of attacks on the Commissioners. Mr. Labouchere objected to some of the Ascot expenses (connected with the Crown estate), and especially to compensating some pheasants, as he put it, for a field of buckwheat which they had lost, by a solatium of £500 a year. But what he most severely reprobated was that the Commissioners, who refused to give land to build a board school upon, had subscribed from the public purse £500 towards repairs at the parish church of Billingborough. He moved to knock £500 off the vote.

Mr. Hanbury, the economist among spendthrifts, the Radical on Tory benches, strongly supported the attack. Incidentally he accused Sir William Harcourt of a "job" in getting some New Forest land "remarkably cheap." The charge fizzled, after creating a little excitement and amusement. Sir William explained, and also found defenders, who spoke with knowledge, not only in Mr. Labouchere, but also on the other side of the House. Mr. Bradlaugh dropped a challenge to the Government to deny his proposition that no member of the Royal family had ever given one inch of land to the nation, the common way of saying that certain revenues which are voted are in return for Crown lands given to the nation being entirely wrong. The challenge was not taken up. How about Trafalgar-square, in connection with which all kinds of nonsense has been talked? Finally, the Government agreed to appoint a Committee of Inquiry into the Commissioners, and the motion was withdrawn: the Scotch members first having a look in over maladministration their side of the border, and the Welshmen over the gold-mining affair.

The evening closed with an unsuccessful but vigorous plea by Dr. Tanner, backed by the indefatigable Labby and Mr. Illingworth, for the admission of humbler vehicles, such as cabs, as well as the carriages of the rich, into Hyde-park and through Constitution-hill, &c. The Tories angered the good Doctor greatly by rudely laughing at his protests on behalf of poor convalescents in need of an airing. In the end Mr. Plunket explained that "The Drive" is the only place where the distinction is made, and that there it is rendered necessary by considerations of traffic. The division supported his excuse by 163 to 44.

At Home and Abroad.

It is rumoured that Earl Brownlow will be appointed Secretary to the Board of Trade, in the place of Lord Onslow. Earl Brownlow at present fills the office of Paymaster-General, and was Parliamentary Secretary to the Local Government Board in the Conservative Government of 1885-86.

Mr. Chamberlain's marriage with Miss Endicott, daughter of the Secretary for War, says the *New York Herald*, will take place on the 15th inst.

The Anglo-German agreement respecting the blockade of the East African coast is expected to be published shortly. Negotiations are taking place with a view to the participation of Italy in the blockade.

Further additions and corrections to the published returns of the gains and losses in the municipal elections show that the Liberal seats won are thirty-nine more than those gained by the united anti-Liberals.

The reservoir which burst at Montreux contained 1,980,000 gallons of water. The torrent which was formed had a depth of about fifteen feet, and was nearly seventy feet in width. The funeral of the victims took place yesterday.

The political excitement still continues at Seville. The Governor has issued a second proclamation prohibiting the citizens from forming groups in the streets. Further disturbances are apprehended.

The members of the Honourable Artillery Company last evening decided to place themselves under the Volunteer Act, accepting the assurance of the Prince of Wales that their ancient privileges and precedence would be maintained.

M. Floquet's rebuff by the Revision Committee was followed yesterday by a rebuff in the Senate, which, by 223 votes to 18, insisted on passing the bill making the Prefecture of Police chargeable on the State instead of on the Paris Municipality.

The new arrangements for reporting parliamentary proceedings do not involve any large saving of money. A sum of £5,000 a year is allotted for meeting the charges of the new system, while last year Mr. Hansard received £5,150.

The annual distribution of prizes at Felstead School took place yesterday. On the previous day a confirmation was held in the school chapel by the Bishop of Colchester, when forty boys were confirmed. The prizes were distributed by the Bishop.

Marshall's Flour Mills, at Grimsby, were last night completely destroyed by a fire. An hour after the outbreak the large clock tower fell in the midst of the flames. The damage is estimated at nearly £30,000, which is covered by insurance in several offices.

Considerable defalcations have been discovered in the accounts of Mr. Pepprell, rate collector and assistant overseer for Torquay. The guardians have suspended the defaulter, and ordered the matter to be reported to the Local Government Board.

The first number of the *Haiasdan*, the organ of the Armenian Patriotic Association, contains, besides a manifesto addressed to the Armenian nation by the central committee of the said body, letters of encouragement from Mr. James Bryce, M.P., and from M. Emile de Laveleye.

Mr. W. Abraham, M.P. for Limerick, desires it to be known that there is not a shadow of foundation for the statement reported to have been made at an inquest at Stepney on Tuesday that his wife was interested in a creche, or babies' home. The statement referred to did not appear in the *Pall Mall Gazette*.

An interesting ceremony was performed yesterday afternoon in the quadrangle of Colchester Castle, when Mr. Alderman Paxman, the mayor, formally handed over to the corporation a handsome bas-relief in marble representing the opening, by the Queen, of the International Exhibition of 1851. The work is by Count Giuseppe Oldefredi, of Milan.

The *Devon and Exeter Daily Gazette* announces that the Government have appointed Sir Stafford Northcote to be the chairman of a Committee to inquire into soldiers' rations, and that among the members of the Committee will be General Sir Redvers Buller, General Goldsworthy, M.P., Colonel Blundell, M.P., and Sir Arthur Haliburton.

The Court of Appeal had before them yesterday the appeal of C. Williams, jun., auctioneer, against a decision of the Divisional Court refusing to grant a prohibition against a warrant of commitment for non-payment of poor rates. He had raised several points, but their lordships decided against him, and dismissed the appeal.

By his will the late Lord Newborough has directed that after a certain period his body is to be removed from the family vault at Llandwrog church, where it was placed on Tuesday, and buried in the old monastery at Bardsey Island, adjoining the monument his lordship erected as a memorial to the 20,000 saints reported to be interred there.

An application was made yesterday to the magistrate at Wandsworth, arising out of the refusal of the relieving officer to bury the body of a child whose mother is insane and father in prison. The guardians dispute their liability, and say the duty rests with the district board, who have no appliances for the purpose. The magistrate said he had no power in the matter.

At Winsford local board yesterday, the clerk read a letter from the Cheshire Lines Railway Company stating that they had definitely settled to discontinue conveying passengers over the Winsford branch, after November 30, in consequence of the recent railway accidents, and the varied suggestions of Colonel Rich, the Board of Trade surveyor.

At the Hammersmith police-court yesterday Mr. Arthur Williamson, headmaster of the Saunders-road board school, Notting-hill, appeared to answer a summons charging him with assaulting one of his scholars, named Walter Kelly. A fine of 40*s.*, with 2*s.* costs, was imposed, and Mr. Paget declined to accede to an application made to increase the penalty so as to allow of an appeal.

The return moved for by Mr. Sydney Buxton, showing the amount received by the Attorney-General and the Solicitor-General during the last ten years is not yet printed. It will be found to show that the incumbents of these offices have within that period shared between them £20,000 a year. The average income of the Attorney-General has been at the rate of £11,375, while the Solicitor-General has received £8,900.

At the meeting of the School Board for London yesterday there was a long debate with reference to the arrangements with the solicitors. It was ultimately decided that those arrangements should be continued subject to certain modifications. Copies of resolutions and a memorial were received from the Moral Reform Union relating to the employment of children in pantomimes and theatres and were referred to the By-Laws Committee.

Tittle Tattle for the Tea Table.

I am deeply sorry to hear that Lord Tennyson has been much more seriously ill than has been supposed, and that his condition still leaves room for uneasiness. He has now suffered a third relapse of rheumatic gout, accompanied with very high temperature; and even before this last attack his friends were by no means easy about the illustrious patient.

***

The *World*, in its sketch of the new Lord Mayor as a celebrity at home, states that, in his early manhood a commercial traveller, he was able to retire from business with a large fortune at the age of forty-six. Alderman Whitehead, however, still retains, I believe, a considerable interest in several drapery establishments—notably Messrs. Pawson, of the City, and Messrs. Barker, of Knightsbridge.

***

In his capacity of chief magistrate of the City, the new Lord Mayor is certain to do well. Nobody who has ever watched Alderman Whitehead dispensing justice in the City courts can have any doubt about that. The manner in which he brings shrewd, business-like common-sense and considerable legal acumen to bear upon the cases before him, and the smart way in which he seems to arrive at even-handed justice, have always been remarked by the reporters, who are not bad judges in such matters.

***

It is reported that Sir William Harcourt and Mr. John Morley simultaneously blushed violently at Bingley when the question of Mr. Gladstone's successor was raised by the multitude. When does a man cease to blush? When he becomes a member of Parliament? Generally. The exceptions, such as Mr. Morley and Sir Vernon, prove the rule. They are not yet pachydermatous.

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Of course no one would have believed the veracious reporter if he had said that Mr. Labouchere's pale and bloodless epidermis was empurpled with the ruddy hue of shame, nor could we conceive a blush mantling on the brow of—say, Lord Randolph. When "Joe" meets his promised bride one feels certain that no blush will beautify his cheek.

***

Mr. Gladstone spoke very handsomely yesterday of "my old friend John Murray," who, although the stiffest and sturdiest of Tories, had just published the letters of O'Connell. Mr. Gladstone had told with great effect the story of the torture of Bergan, who was whipped to death for wearing a ring with the national device of the shamrock. "Here you see it," said the Grand Old Man, tapping the boards of Mr. Murray's book with great vigour: "the name is surrounded by a wreath of shamrock."

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The Murrays of course have been publishers for over a century, and have dealt with the most famous men of letters and statesmen of the day. The present Mr. John Murray has a fine house at Wimbledon, which is full of remarkable mementoes of his ancestors.

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If the "young lions" of the *D. T.* are individually anathematizing the late Mr. L. for that little remissness of his in testamentary matters, the office has gone into mourning for him. At least, the letters of the editorial department have for some days past been written on paper upon which figures the blackest of black borders.

***

I expressed doubt yesterday whether Mr. Lucy was doing the reports of the Birmingham and Black Country demonstration for the *Daily News*, which have been excellent. I was right in my doubts. Mr. Alexander Paul acted as the *D. N.* correspondent. Mr. Paul, as all journalists know, took Mr. Lucy's place in the gallery of the House when that person was promoted to what proved a rather thorny seat in Bouverie-street. When Mr. Lucy was sent back to the gallery by Mr. Robinson, Mr. Paul took an improved position in the editorial department of the morning Gladstonian organ.

***

Mr. Darling, who took his seat last night for the Universities of Edinburgh and St. Andrew's as the new Solicitor-General for Scotland, is a very lucky man. His predecessor was several times defeated before he succeeded in even getting a seat as a private member. Mr. Darling was advocate depute, as it is called (a sort of public prosecutor) in the circuit courts, which correspond roughly to our assize courts. His elevation, after not even having served as sheriff, is very unusual. He had but a small practice, I understand, and his new office, so far from interfering with his work, will largely increase it, besides the fact that he will now, as a matter of custom, have double fees in all cases.

***

The salary attached to the office is £955, or less than half the Lord Advocate's. His predecessor, Mr. Robertson, who was constantly making clever speeches in Irish debates, now replaces the portly form (admirably figured in *Vanity Fair* the other day) of Mr. Macdonald, who from Lord Advocate now becomes in the general transplantation Lord Justice Clerk and a peer. Mr. Darling is a clever young lawyer; but the fact that his family is a Tory power in Scotland has doubtless something to do with his good luck. "Never the time, and the place, and the loved one, all together!" sighs Mr. Browning. Political aspirants are apt to find that when the occasion comes they are not ready for it, when they are prepared the occasion is lacking, and when both coincide their Government is lukewarm or out of office. But the new member is evidently a Darling of fortune. He is tall, dark, and fine-looking, with a high colour. He does not look thirty.

Boyd's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

AN INCREASE IN THE NAVY DECIDED UPON.

NEW IRONCLADS, CRUISERS, AND TORPEDO BOATS.

The Special Committee of the Cabinet on the state of our national defences having arrived at the conclusion that a considerable strengthening of the naval force of the country is necessary, steps are being taken to give effect to their recommendation. Within the next few days the fact will be announced to the House of Commons, together with a scheme which has been prepared by the Admiralty, for the building of at least eight first-class ironclads, over a score of swift cruisers, and a large number of torpedo boats and torpedo catchers. The designs for all these craft are in a forward state, and it is intended that their construction shall be undertaken at once, and rapidly pushed forward to completion.

CLEVER ESCAPE OF TWO PRISONERS.

A daring escape is to-day reported from Aberdare. Two prisoners, David Morris and William Evans, who were charged before the Aberdare magistrates with committing a burglary at Mountain Ash, were being conveyed by rail to Cardiff gaol in charge of Police-sergeant Cole. They were handcuffed to each other, and on their arrival at Aberdare Junction, where a change of trains had to be made, the prisoners sprang over the fence, scaled the hills, and were soon lost to sight in the mist. Chase was made by the police, but both men effected their escape.

THE PRIMATE AND THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN.

We understand that some very important correspondence has passed between the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of Lincoln, the Primate being anxious that for the sake of peace some points of ritual practised by the Bishop of Lincoln should be abandoned without their legality or even propriety being questioned. The Bishop does not see his way to such a course, and it is thought that he will argue his own case before the Primate. A very large attendance is expected at the meeting summoned by Archdeacon Denison to consider the question next week.

HALIFAX RATEPAYERS AND THE GAS SCANDAL.

At a crowded public meeting of the ratepayers of Halifax, held on Wednesday evening, at which the mayor presided, a resolution was adopted with enthusiasm thanking the mayor and the other members of the special committee appointed to deal with the gas question, and assuring them of its hearty sympathy and support in their efforts to get to the bottom of the matter. The mayor, in responding, said he could scarcely express his grateful feelings for their vote of confidence. A mayor in taking up a position such as the one he had been called upon to take up required all the support which the ratepayers could give him. He was glad they had mentioned his colleagues on the committee in the resolution, for they had gone heart and soul with him in that matter. They had resolved that, come what may, whatever time, labour, and trouble it might bring, if it was possible to get at the bottom of the matter, they would root it out. It was high time that the question should be gone into, for he could "a tale unfold" that would, he thought, astonish them—exceedingly astonish them. But, as the matter was being sifted, and had to be wormed out, so to speak, bit by bit, it was better that he should not for the present say more. There would be a time, however, when he could open his mouth and tell them a great deal that had been going on, and which had not yet been made known to the public.

THE LATE MR. R. A. PROCTOR.

A petition, which has already been extensively signed by some of the most distinguished men in science and literature, is being drawn up to the First Lord of the Treasury in favour of the claims of the widow and children of the late Mr. Richard A. Proctor to a pension under the Civil List in consideration of Mr. Proctor's services to science and to the popularizing of science. Mr. Proctor left a family of six children by his first wife and two by his second. The total resources of his widow are stated to be not more than £150, and one of his sons suffers from an incurable hip disease.

MR. WILLING, SEN., AND PARTINGTON AND CO.

Mr. C. F. Partington, proprietor of the Partington Advertising Company, writes in reference to a recent application for an injunction against his firm by Mr. James Willing, senior, which injunction was refused by Mr. Justice Stirling without calling on the counsel for the defence: "The action has been dismissed with costs against Mr. Willing by order of Mr. Justice Stirling in Chambers, no justification having been offered in support of the statements made by Mr. Willing. The matter is now in our solicitor's hands."

FOUR CHILDREN BURNED TO DEATH.

A sad event is reported from Helmsley, near Malton, four children having been burned to death in their home. On Wednesday night Mrs. Ransome, who lives in High-street, put her four youngest children to bed and went out, leaving a lamp burning on the table. Some of the windows had been removed, owing to repairs, and it is thought possible that a strong draught had caused the fire. The house was an old-fashioned one of timber and thatch, and so burned rapidly. Its secluded position prevented an alarm being given for some time. The parents were among the first to arrive on the scene, and they got two of the children out of the burning house. They were, however, so severely burned that they died within a very short time. The bodies of the other two children were found two hours later, and they presented a pitiable appearance.

LOYAL AND OTHERWISE.

Last evening, at the Winsford (Cheshire) local board, the clerk asked what inscription should be placed over the Jubilee free library. The chairman suggested that Victoria should be introduced. Mr. Atherton: Has Victoria given any subscription? The chairman: The free library was built in honour of her Jubilee. Mr. Hulse did not mind the word Jubilee, but why put in "Victoria"? Let "Victoria" stop in London. (Laughter.)

ABANDONED FOR THIS SESSION.

We have reason to believe, says the *Standard*, that, as a result of the consultation held at Birmingham, the Liberal leaders have decided to oppose any bill for the enlargement of Lord Ashbourne's Act, and the leaders of the Opposition are determined to resist any further use of the Imperial credit for facilitating land purchase in Ireland until the Government have disclosed their complete plan of dealing with the land question in that country. It is now understood that if the Opposition are determined to resist any extension of Lord Ashbourne's Act, the Government will not attempt to deal with the subject this Session.

FOURTH EDITION.

THE LORD MAYOR'S SHOW.

NO CIRCUS PARADE.—A SMALL PROCESSION.

THE HUNGRY TO BE FED.

Mr. Alderman James Whitehead, London's new Chief Magistrate, has effected a revolution in "the Show." Circus parades such as we have hitherto had on the 9th of November are neither in accordance with his own tastes, nor, as he believes, in keeping with the dignity of his office, and hence he abandoned the showier features of the show, and confined the parade to-day to the following programme :—

Detachment of Mounted Police.
Detachment of 19th Hussars.
Mounted Band of the Royal Artillery.
The Worshipful Company of Glovers.
Group of Banners.
The Worshipful Company of Spectacle Makers.
Group of Banners.
The Worshipful Company of Shipwrights.
The Worshipful Company of Turners.
Group of Banners.
The Worshipful Company of Clothworkers.
Group of Banners.
The Worshipful Company of Fanmakers.
The Band of the Life Guards.
Mr. Under-Sheriff Clarence Hale, in his State Carriage.
Mr. Under-Sheriff Metcalfe, in his State Carriage.
The Officers of the Corporation of the City of London.
Group of Banners.

Mr. Sheriff Newton,
Attended by his Chaplain, in his State Chariot.
Mr. Alderman and Sheriff Gray,
Attended by his Chaplain, in his State Chariot.
State Trumpeters of the Household Cavalry.
The Aldermen who have Not Passed the Chair.
The Recorder,
The Aldermen who Have Passed the Chair.
Two Mounted Farriers.
Mounted Band of the 19th Hussars.
The Late Lord Mayor
(Sir Polydore de Keyser).
The Lady Mayoress,
In her State Carriage, attended by her Maids of Honour, will join the Procession on its Return.
The City Marshal, on Horseback.
The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor,
In his State Coach, drawn by Six Horses, and attended by his Chaplain, Sword-bearer, and Mace-bearer.
Escort of the 19th Hussars.

But if the circus parade has been abandoned, the new Lord Mayor has done his best to make the 9th of November a festive occasion for poor Londoners. He and Mr. Sheriff Newton have provided a treat for two thousand destitute people in the East-end; he has arranged for special gifts to eighty of the occupants of the City of London Union Hospital at Margate, and to 260 children in the schools at Hanwell; and in other ways, as it is reported, provided entertainment in some form or other for no less than ten thousand people, including the company assembled at Guildhall. This is a new portrait of the right honourable gentleman who is the centre of attraction in the City to-day :—

THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR,
ALDERMAN WHITEHEAD.

It is a typical November day: muddy streets and drizzling rain. But the procession left the Guildhall at half-past twelve, and moved towards the Law Courts, through Gresham-street, St. Martin's-le-Grand, Cheapside, Poultry, Cornhill, Leadenhall-street, Billiter-street, Fenchurch-street, Mincing-lane, Great Tower-street, Eastcheap, King William-street, Queen Victoria-street, Cannon-street, St. Paul's-churchyard, Ludgate-hill, Fleet-street, to the Royal Courts of Justice, returning by way of the Strand, Northumberland-avenue, Victoria-embankment, Queen Victoria-street, Queen-street, King-street, to Guildhall.

The City this morning did not present the usual bustle and excitement. The principal thoroughfares through which the Lord Mayor passed to and from the Royal Courts of Justice were decorated in his honour, but not on a very lavish scale except at Cheapside and Queen Victoria-street. As usual on these occasions, the ward with which the new Lord Mayor is connected, which this year is Cheap, is more profusely decorated than any other part of the City. Here there is something like uniformity in the decorations. These are of the old familiar order—heraldic shields surmounted by flags, which have done service for many years, the only novel feature being a liberal display of paper flowers made up into baskets and attached to the lampposts. In Cornhill, Ludgate-hill, Fleet-street, and several other leading thoroughfares there are, however, no flags to be seen, nor are there many mottoes. Those that do appear contain nothing striking. In fact, the decorations, like the Show, are plain and commonplace.

THE BANQUET INVITATION CARD.

The invitation card for the Lord Mayor's banquet this year has been designed by Mr. Linley Sambourne, who has chosen events from the last seven centuries of civic life as being typical of national as well as civic progress; and the printers are Messrs. W. H. and L. Collingridge, of the City Press. The two figures of FitzAlwyn, first Mayor, and Whitehead the latest, stand out prominently in the centre of the design. Between them, at the base, are the arms of City of London, and above, those of Lord Mayor Whitehead. Scattered in front of each lie the types of work done in their respective generations. Before FitzAlwyn, that is to say, on left of the card, in the centre are arranged a dagger, the curfew bell, a cross-bow, a battle-axe, and other symbols of a turbulent period. In front of Lord Mayor Whitehead the civilizing arts and the inventions of a peaceful age are typified. There is the penny postage stamp, the railway, the telegraph, the electric light, and an exquisite piece of pottery, as representing art. Such is the leading idea But within the scrolls on either side are depicted some prominent historical events which link together the first period with the present time. On the left and right of the subscription are the arms of the two sheriffs of London and Middlesex, Mr. Alderman Gray and Mr. Alfred J. Newton.

REJOICINGS IN WESTMORELAND.

Our Kendal correspondent telegraphs :—The accession of Mr. Alderman Whitehead to the office of Lord Mayor is being celebrated in Westmoreland to-day with great rejoicings. At Appleby—(it is the Appleby division of Westmoreland for which the Lord Mayor is the Gladstonian candidate)—the festivities are on a large scale; and treats are being given by his lordship to the inmates of the Kendal, Mitnihorpe, and Kirkby workhouses, as well as various other institutions. There will be a torchlight procession at Appleby this evening. Alderman Whithead is the third Westmoreland man who has been appointed Lord Mayor of London.

The Lord Mayor has taken the Marie Antoinette suite of apartments at the Hôtel Métropole, which he will occupy with his family until the completion of the Mansion House redecoration.

THE PARNELL COMMISSION.

DILATORY QUEEN'S COUNSEL.

When the judges entered this morning, promptly at half-past ten, as is their wont, not one of the array of Queen's counsel engaged in the case was present. There was an awkward delay for several minutes, and then Mr. Atkinson for the *Times* put in an appearance. The President, in his severest manner, queried, "Have you no witness ready, Mr. Atkinson?" "Yes, my lord, one is coming." "But he ought to be come," replied his lordship. Mr. Murphy came in shortly afterwards, and then Mr. Lockwood on the other side, and the other members of the bar followed.

Michael Joyce, an elderly Irishman, dressed in a long frieze coat, from Oranmore, county Galway, was then called, and gave his evidence in a more straightforward fashion than did some of the witnesses yesterday. He had taken a farm which had been surrendered by another farmer named Cusack, the landlord being Mr. Walter Stance. In May, 1880, he took it; he stocked it in July; in August his cattle were injured; and he immediately threw up the farm. No Land League branch existed in the district at the time, but one was formed towards the end of the year, which he joined. Mr. Murphy remarked that it would be proved that speeches had been delivered at Athenry prior to the outrages.

CAROLINE JOHANNA BLAKE.

The second witness was an Irish lady who rejoices in the name of Caroline Johana Blake, and who was in or about the year 1879 guardian to her son, Henry Edgar Valentine Blake. She was very bitter against the agitation. Before the "agitation" her tenants were friendly, and paid their rent; after the "agitation" they refused to pay unless they received a reduction. Some paid secretly; on one occasion an old man came with a little boy, the little boy carrying the money (like a conjuror) in his sleeve. Witness's story was coherent, and she told it with volubility; so smooth was her eloquence that Sir Charles Russell ventured to suggest that she might wait until she was asked questions—a suggestion which again caused Mr. Murphy, whose feathers are being continually ruffled by Sir Charles, to become as irate as an irritated turkey-cock. Mrs. Blake was allowed to proceed, her stream of vocables being occasionally directed by the Irish Q.C. One of her tenants had his hay burned because he paid his rent; another had more than a hundred sheep thrown into the sea. How these sheep were induced to enter the water, she did not explain; so one knows not whether they "ran down a steep place"—as Sir Henry James humorously suggested in a *sotto voce* interruption—or whether the perpetrator of the outrage emulated the clever trick of Rabelais's Panurge.

A BOUT BETWEEN BAR AND BENCH.

The answers of Mrs. Blake to the questions as put by Mr. Murphy roused Sir Charles Russell to interpolate more than once, "Do you know of your own knowledge?" The witness insisted that she did. "But were you there?" "No, I was not there. I could not unless I was one of the agitators." In respect to a midnight visit said to have been paid to a herd in her employ, Sir Charles observed, with some warmth: I object to any statement being made by this lady on what is mere hearsay evidence, and unless this rule is observed in the case of every witness, this ceases to be a judicial investigation.

Sir James Hannen: That is not a proper observation to make. The witness says that this herd was in her employ, and it was his duty to report to her anything of the kind that occurred.

A little later, upon the observation by the witness, "It was reported to me,' Sir Charles Russell once more objected. Again, on a statement as to certain boycotting notices,

Sir Charles queried—Are we to have this without the notices being produced?

Sir James Hannen: Yes.

Sir Charles Russell: And without the statement that she saw them?

Sir James Hannen: You can bring that out, but not in the way you are doing it.

Sir Charles Russell: I wished to do so, and I have restrained myself under circumstances of great irritation.

Sir James Hannen: I don't think you have restrained yourself; on the contrary, you have expressed yourself with great disrespect.

Sir Charles Russell: I had no intention to express myself other than earnestly.

Sir James Hannen: I will accept that when you say so, but some one must have the last word, and I think I ought to have it.

Mr. Lockwood then cross-examined the witness, who denied that there was any serious distress in 1879. They got up a cry of distress, but that cry was political. There was a failure in part of the potato crop, but they exaggerated it. The condition of Mrs. Blake's tenants, it also transpired, had been discussed in Parliament, but "we were justified," said Mrs. Blake, by Mr. Forster and the officers who had been appointed to report upon the case.

Sir Charles Russell submitted that there was no such rule that because it was the duty of a person to make a report that the person to whom the report was made could repeat that as evidence. There was only one exception to the rule. Where it was the duty of an agent to make a written entry or report, if that agent was not available, then the entry or report was admissible evidence. There was no known rule of law to admit statements that were merely verbal statements of an agent even in the discharge of his duty.

The Attorney-General held that the *res gestæ* might be proved, and if servants had made communications these were parts of the *res gestæ*.

After consultation, Sir James Hannen said as the objection had been taken in a formal manner and argued, they thought right to consider it further, and in the meantime the evidence should proceed without referring to statements made by other persons. They would give a definite opinion upon it at a later sitting.

"I REALLY COULDN'T TELL."

Mrs. Blake's method of giving evidence must have sorely tried even the forensic skill of Sir Charles Russell. As a rule she failed to recollect anything. "I do not remember," "I really couldn't tell"—these replies would be plentifully strewn about a verbatim report of her evidence. Especially hopeless was she in regard to the matter of dates; and nothing could be more evident than the truth of her remark, "I don't keep dates in my head." When she replied to a question she would persist in adding a rider, explaining, amplifying, and even controverting her answer. If allowed to tell a story in her own way she rambled and repeated. Sir Charles Russell failed to elicit much in the course of an extended cross-examination; nor was Mr. Biggar more successful. She told Mr. Biggar that her rental in 1879 was about £1,600, and that few of her tenants entered the Land Court. Their holdings were "gone over" by a valuer, by whose decision they agreed in the main to abide. "Do you form any opinion? What do you think?" These questions occurred in Mr. Biggar's cross-examination with an unpleasant frequency; and, at the President's suggestion, he ultimately gave over. The Attorney-General then put some questions, but his beginning did not look hopeful. "When did your son come of age?" he asked, his question being followed quickly with the inevitable, "Really, I couldn't tell you." Mrs. Blake is an exceedingly intelligent woman, but she is far from being an ideal witness.

ANOTHER ARGUMENT AS TO EVIDENCE.

Henry Smith, who held land under Mrs. Blake in 1879, stated that seventeen or eighteen sheep had been taken off his land, and were never afterwards heard of. He made a claim and got compensation. A question as to the ground on which he made the claim was objected to by Sir Charles as not being evidence, for any claim by him on the ground of malicious injury was not proof of malicious injury. The President was ready to admit this as evidence, but Mr. Lockwood raised another point that if this was to be so then the written claim made at the time should be produced. The President agreed that this should be done, and said he had already indicated on the previous day that counsel should do so. The witness was then asked, as in the case of Mrs. Blake, as to something that had been reported to him.

A THREATENED "TIMES" WITNESS.

Upon Mr. Bridge taking his seat on the bench at Bow-street this morning, a young man, whose name did not transpire, entered the witness-box and said: "I have an application to make. I am here as a special witness for the *Times* on this Commission. I have been seriously intimidated." Mr. Bridge: By whom? Applicant: On the Parnell side. Mr. Bridge: But who by? Applicant: Well, sir, I cannot disclose the name. Mr. Bridge: Then I cannot help you unless you do. Tell me where they are to be found. Applicant: No, I could not. The magistrate asked him to write down the name, but he refused, on the ground that "it would injure the party." Mr. Bridge told him that he was behaving like a coward, and he withdrew.

ANOTHER TRAGEDY IN THE CITY.

A WOMAN FOUND CUT TO PIECES.

As we go to press intelligence reaches us of another murder in the City. The City Police state that a woman was found cut to pieces in a house in Dorset-street, at a quarter to eleven o'clock this morning. No particulars have yet been received, and it is at present impossible to say whether the crime belongs to the same category as those which so recently startled the civilised world. Details will appear in our next edition.

A MAGISTRATE ON ATTRACTIVE BARMAIDS.

There was a case before Mr. Bridge, at Bow-street, to-day, in which an attractive young woman of twenty-one, a barmaid, was charged with stealing a shilling and some cigars. The evidence revealed the usual story—money missed, money marked, a search, found on the prisoner, and so forth. The young woman admitted her guilt; and Mr. Bridge remanded her for a week, because he thought as she had taken cigars she must have been tempted by somebody. He then remarked, "I cannot help thinking it would be a good thing if landlords would not engage young and good-looking girls as barmaids, as it is a very bad thing for them. For a young girl of twenty-one a public-house is not the proper place." When the keeper of the restaurant who prosecuted ventured to agree with the magistrate and aver his partiality for barmen, he was promptly advised to "engage them then"

THIS DAY'S RACING.

LIVERPOOL AUTUMN MEETING.

MATCH for 100 sovs. (Two miles over eight hurdles).—Bertha (W. Nightingall) beat Hettie (A. Nightingall). Betting: 11 to 10 on Bertha. A fine race—won by a neck.

BOOTLE NURSERY PLATE (Five furlongs).—Master Patrick (Rickaby), 1. Laddie (Platt), 2. Keswick (Calder), 3. Also ran: Frederick James (F. Barrett), Presto (G. Barrett), Black Pearl (Chandley), Church Mouse (Luke), Area Belle c. (Olley). Betting: 100 to 30 agst Master Patrick, 6 to 1 agst Laddie, 6 to 1 agst Keswick. Won by half a length, a neck between second and third, Presto fourth, Frederick James fith, Area Belle c. next, and Black Pearl last.

LIVERPOOL ST. LEGER (About one mile and a quarter).—Toscano (Robinson), 1. Apollo (G. Barrett), 2. Bellatrix (Rickaby), 3. Also ran: Renown (Fagan), Sea Foam (Platt), Netheravon (F. Barrett). Betting: 2 to 1 agst Bellatrix. 11 to 4 agst Apollo, 4 to 1 agst Toscano.

GREAT LANCASHIRE HANDICAP.—Lisbon, 1. Shillelagh, 2. Pompeius, 3. Seven ran.

It was reported recently that the housekeeper of the present Earl of Warwick had left her master a legacy of £70,000. The executors ask us to state that the story is without foundation.

The Rev. Arthur W. Jephson, member of the London School Board, and vicar of St. John's, Waterloo-road, was yesterday married to Miss Charlotte Hodgson, daughter of the late vicar of Croydon. The marriage was at Shirley Church, and the Bishop of Rochester officiated.

THIS DAY'S MONEY MARKET.

Half-past One.

HOME RAILWAYS AND FOREIGN STOCKS FIRM.—AMERICANS DEPRESSED.

The condition of the Money Market remains unchanged. There is only a small demand for accommodation, either in the shape of short loans or discounts, and the supply of loanable capital is still superabundant. There is a disposition to maintain the discount rate, however, and the quotation for three months' bank paper is still called 3 to 3⅛ per cent, but, as a matter of fact, little business is secured at the higher figure. There are very bills offering. Short money is not worth more than 1½ per cent, while for advances for a week, which includes the Stock Exchange settlement, the charge is no more than about 2¼ per cent. Rumours are still current of further withdrawals of gold for the Argentine Republic, but they fail to have much effect on the market.

The tendency of prices on the Stock Exchange except in the American Railroad market has improved somewhat, and in many cases now a fractional advance is shown. Consols and other high-class investment stocks are dull, old Consols showing a decline of ⅛. In the Home Railway market the only business of interest has been in Brighton Deferred, which continues in strong speculative demand and shows a further substantial rise. In the matter of the Shornclife dispute between the Chatham and South Eastern Companies judgment has been given against the latter company on all points, but the Deferred stock has not given way further, as the result had been expected and discounted. Foreign Stocks are dull, except for Russian Bonds, which have again been bought, and are now quoted at 101 ⅝. American Railroad securities are again all lower, and much disappointment is expressed that the expected improvement in values after the Presidential election has not come off. There is no heavy selling, however, and the movements are not of special importance. Philadelphia and Reading shares continue to receive a considerable share of attention. As also Northern Pacific Preference Missouri, and Kansas and Texas have been bought, and are exceptionally firm. Grand Trunk stocks are quiet but firm, and Mexican Railway issues have improved. Mines and Miscellaneous securities are quiet

The following are the latest changes compared with last night's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Brighton Deferred ⅝; Great Eastern, Chatham Ordinary, Sheffield Deferred, North British Preferred and Deferred, and North Eastern ⅛. *Receded*: Midland ⅛.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Improved*: Russian 1873 ½, Uruguay Bonds ¼, Egyptian Daira ⅛, the Unified 1-16, Mexican Converted ⅛, and Turkish Group 2⅛. *Declined*: Egyptian State Domain ¼, Buenos Ayres Cedulas "I" ¼, and Spanish Four per Cents, 1-16.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Higher*: Missouri, Kansas, and Texas ½, Lake Shore, Erie shares, and Ontario shares ⅛. *Receded*: Illinois Central 1, Erie Second Mortgage, Northern Pacific Preference and Pennsylvania shares ½, Louisville and Nashville, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Mexican Central Bonds, Ohio and Mississippi Ordinary, and Wabash Preference and Mortgage ¼, Central Pacific, Denver Preference, New York Central, Atlantic Firsts, and Pennsylvania shares ⅛.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: Mexican Ordinary ⅜, the Second Preference ¼, Grand Trunk First and Second Preference ¾. *Lower*: Canadian Pacific ⅛.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Higher*: Cape and Namaqua ¼, Suez Canal ¼, and Imperial Ottoman Bank 1-16. *Lower*: Guinness's Ordinary 1¼, Hudson's Bay and Primitiva Nitrate ¼, De Beers and Salt shares ⅛.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—Good business doing at full prices. Sales, 13,000. Futures one to two points higher, with sellers at the two points advance.

An interim dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum, free of income tax, for the six months ending June 30, 1888 (similar to that of last year), has been declared by the directors of the Buenos Ayres (New) Gas Company (Limited).

The directors of the Central Bank of London notify that a branch bank will be opened on Monday, the 12th of November, 1888, at 91, Mile-end-road, under the management of Mr. W. R. Evans.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal Stocks and Shares;—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols	100¼	¼
New Consols (2¾)	97⅞	¼
Reduced 3 p. c.	99¾	100¼
Local Loan Stock	102¼	3¼
New 2½ per Cent.	93¼	4¼
India 3½ per Cent.	105½	6½
Do. 4½ p. c. Rn.	71⅞	¼
Egyptian Guar.	100¾	1¼
Met. Bd. Wks. 3½	111¼	12¼
Do. 3 p. c. Scrip	101½	2
Birmingham Crp. Stk.	111	½
Liverpool	110¾	¾
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argentine 6 p. c.	99	101
Do. Hard Dols.	69	70
Do. Treasury	93¼	4½
Austrian Gold	90	2
Do. Silver	68	70
Brazilian 1875	102½	3½
B. Ayres 6 p. c.	98	100
Do. Cedulas I.	60½	1
Chilian 4½ p.c. 1885	100	2
Costa Rica A.	92½	3½
Do. B.	91	2
Egypt. State Dom.	102	½
Do. Unified	81½	¾ xd
Do. Preference	100⅜	⅜
Do. Daira Sanieh	77¼	½
French 3 p.c. Rnts	81½	2
Do. 4½ p c. Rnts	104¼	¼
Greek 5 p.c. 1881	83	½
Hung. Gold Rentes	84¼	½
Italian	95¼	6
Mexican Converted	39⅜	⅞
Peruvian 5 p.c. '72	15⅜	16
Do 6 p.c.	17⅞	18
Portuguese	63½	¾
Russian 1873	101½	¼
Spanish 4 p.c.	72	15-16 3 1-16
Turkish 1854	99	101
Group 1	23½	9
Group 2	16¼	¼
Group 4	15⅜	⅜
4½ p.c. 1891	82	½
5 p.c. Defence	94	½
5 p.c. Priority	82	4
Uruguay Unified	73¼	4¼
Virginia Funded	39	41
U.S. 4½ p.c.	110	11
BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Caledonian	111½	¾
Great Eastern	68⅜	⅝
Great Northern	115½	16½
Ditto A	100½	1⅛
Great Western	150½	¾
Hull and Barnsley	34½	5
Lanc. and York.	110½	17½
Brighton (Ordinary)	143	5
Brighton A	129¼	½
Chatham (Ordinary)	23	¼
Do. Preference	101¼	¼
North Western	168¼	½
South Western	138½	9½
Manchester & Shef.	68	70
Do. A.	36	¼
Met. Consolidated	75¼	6¼
Do. Land Stock	69½	70½
Do. District	33¼	¼
Midland	133	½
North British Pref	73¼	4
Do. Def.	51¼	2
North Eastern	158	¼
North Stafford	110½	11½
South Eastern	132	4
Do. Deferred	103½	¼
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	56¼	7¼
Cen. Pacific Shares	37	¼
Chic. Mil. and St. P.	68	½
Denver & R. Grande	18¼	19
Do. Pref.	49¼	¾
Illinois Shares	118½	19½
Lake Shore	106⅛	⅛
Ohio & Mississippi	23	½
Louis. and Nash.	60⅞	1⅛
Mex. Cen. Bonds	67¼	8
Miss. Kan. & Texas	13	⅛
N. Y. Cen. Shares	113	¼
New York Ontario	16⅜	⅝
Erie Shares	29⅜	⅞
Do. Sec. Mort.	103¼	¼
Norfolk & West. Pre	53¼	½
N. Y. P. & O. 1st M.	41⅛	⅜
North. Pacific Pref.	62	½
Pennsylvania Sh.	56	½
Phil. and Read. Sh.	25⅛	⅜
Union Pacific Shares	65¼	7
Wabash Preferred	27¼	8¼
Do. Gen. Mort.	44	5
Grand Trunk Sh.	10⅞	11⅛
Do. First Pref.	67⅓	⅓
Do. Second Pref	47½	8
Do. Third Pref.	26⅜	⅞
Do. Guaranteed	71½	2
Mexican Ordinary	47	¼
Do First Pref	120	¾
Ob. do. 2nd Pref	77	½
Lombardo-Venetian	8 15 16	9 1 16
Varna 3 per cent.	7⅓	⅔
Nitrate Railway	27¼	8¼
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	131¼	14¼
City Bank	203½	1½
Consolidated Bank	8	½
Imperial Ottomar	12 5 16	7
London and County	85½	6½
Union of London	40	1
London and West.	66½	7½
London Joint Stock	39	40
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	42½	3½
Stand. Bnk. S. Africa	48½	9½
MINES.		
Indian Consolidated	¼	⅜
Mysore shares	3¼	⅜
Ooregums	19 16	11 16
Cape Copper	6⅛	⅜
Namaqua	4⅛	⅜
Mason and Barry	11⅞	12
Rio Tinto	26	¼
Montana £1 shares	2	⅛
De Beers, new shares	16¼	17
Kimberley Cent.	—	—
TELEGRAPHS AND TELEPHONES.		
Anglo-American	45¾	7½
Do. Pref.	78	9
Brazilian Submarine	13¾	⅛
Direct Unit. States	9⅜	⅛
Eastern	12⅛	⅜
Ditto Extension	13	⅛
United Telephone	13¾	¼
Globe Teleg. Trust	6⅜	7⅛
TRAMWAYS, ETC.		
London Gen. Om.	190	200
London Street	13⅝	14½
London Tramway	13	14
North Metropolitan	17½	18½
WATERWORKS.		
Chelsea Waterworks	260	5
East London	197	202
Grand Junction	123	7
Kent	270	5
Lambeth	255	60
New River, New	345	50
Sthwrk & Vauxhall	168	73
W. Middlesex	265	70
GAS AND ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
Baslight & Coke A	244	9
Imp. Continental	209	12
South Metropolitan	300	10
Brush Elec. Lt. (£4 pd)	4¼	½
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	7⅞	8⅛
Guinness and Co.	305	10
Hotchkiss	10½	⅜
Bryant and May	12⅞	13⅛
Spratt's Patent	10½	⅜
London Nitrate	25	7
Primitiva Nitrate	32	½
Salt Union Shares	4¼	5 pm
P. and O. Steam	65	7
Royal Mail Steam	61	4 xd
Stat. Discount Co.	11¼	¼
Hudson's Bay	18½	19
Suez Canal	88¾	¾
E. & W. Ind. Dock	23	5
London and St. K.	40	2

(REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.)

NEW ROLLING STOCK FOR GERMAN RAILWAYS.

BERLIN, Nov. 9.—The semi-official *Norddeutscher Zeitung* to-day announces that, in view of the unprecedentedly rapid increase of traffic, which has exceeded all estimates, the State Railway Administration has not remained inactive, and has met the emergency by ordering nearly 7,000 new goods waggons, besides hiring from abroad nearly 1,500 trucks. The Administration will also, for the further increase of the rolling-stock, ask the Reichstag to vote a credit of forty-five million marks.

MORE REPUBLICAN VICTORIES.

NEW YORK, Nov. 9.—The latest returns indicate that the Republicans have carried West Virginia, thus gaining another seat in the United States Senate, and also a slight majority in the House of Representatives.

The Philadelphia correspondent of the *Times* writes:—A discussion has been already begun about General Harrison's policy as President and the composition of his Cabinet. President Cleveland will continue in office for some months, the old Congress reassembling in December, and meanwhile none of the changes caused by the elections will become effective. General Harrison is confidently expected to make Mr. Blaine his Secretary of State, but this appointment will meet with some objection among the Republicans. General Harrison will also offer a portfolio in the Cabinet to Senator Quay, of Pennsylvania, chairman of the National Republican Committee, whose admirable management won New York. As Congress will then be under Republican control, a movement is expected for tariff revision by that party under Protectionist auspices. It will probably be made the duty of a commission to propose a revised tariff to Congress; but such a bill can hardly become law till 1890, and the present tariff will meanwhile continue in force.

PRADO'S TRIAL.—YESTERDAY'S PROCEEDINGS.

MDME. COURONNEAU IN THE BOX.

The sitting yesterday was chiefly occupied in hearing witnesses to prove that Prado was the perpetrator of a robbery of jewels committed at Royan. There seems to be but little, if any, doubt about his being guilty of it, as all his accomplices sold jewels which have been recognized by the Royan jeweller as being among those which were stolen from his shop. Prado was just previous to the robbery a lodger in the jeweller's house, and was very attentive to the maidservant, of whom he obtained minute information as to the working of the electric alarm bell. To facilitate the robbery he also succeeded in placing himself on friendly terms with the jeweller and his family, to whom he gave tickets for the theatre. When the unfortunate tradesman returned from the entertainment his shop had been pillaged.

After elucidating the question of the robbery at Royan, Mdme. Couronneau, the mother of Mauricette, was put into the witness-box. She explained how Prado made her acquaintance, and that of her daughter. He almost immediately demanded Mauricette in marriage. Though she knew he had been living with Eugénie Forestier, she assembled the members of her family, and they decided to accept Prado's offer. Mauricette was then betrothed to Prado. Shortly after, the doctor attending Mauricette discovered that she was *enceinte*, and Mdme. Couronneau implored Prado to marry her without delay. He was, however, in no hurry to do so, and, on one pretext or another, kept deferring the wedding. Mdme. Couronneau deplored that her numerous family—she has fourteen children—had prevented her looking after her daughter as she required. The arrest of Prado was followed by that of Mauricette and her mother, which completed the ruin of the Couronneau family, for it resulted in the closing of her shop and the loss of all her customers. She had also incurred debts to lend Prado money. The trial was again adjourned.

THE GOVERNORSHIP OF QUEENSLAND.

THE COLONY ASTONISHED AND INDIGNANT.

Sir Thomas McIlwraith, the Premier, has sent a telegram to Mr. Archer, the Agent-General for Queensland in London, stating that the news of Sir H. A. Blake's appointment to the governorship of the colony has been received with general indignation and astonishment. Sir Thomas McIlwraith adds that Sir S. W. Griffith, the ex-Premier, agrees in condemning the appointment. The Queensland Government last month instructed Mr. Archer, Agent-General for the colony in London, to urge upon the Colonial Office the expediency of privately communicating to the Colonial Ministry the name of the proposed new Governor prior to the appointment being finally made. Lord Knutsford replied that it was impossible that colonial Ministers should share in the responsibility of nominating a Governor.

AN ATTACK BY ARAB CAVALRY OUTSIDE SUAKIN.

Yesterday morning General Grenfell, with the mounted infantry and a battery of horse artillery, reconnoitred on the right flank of the enemy's trenches outside Suakin. The mounted battery, says the *Times* correspondent at Suakin, fired into the trenches, but could not get into a position to enfilade them, owing to the interposition of thick bush. The Arab cavalry, numbering about seventy, charged our mounted infantry, killing four and wounding one of them; but they were well shelled by the ships, the forts, and the battery, and soon retired. The Arab infantry in the trenches and the bush also showed in large numbers, and reserves, both mounted and on foot, were seen in the direction of Handoub. The Sirdar has now reconnoitred both flanks of the enemy's position, and is of opinion that with the present force here that position is far too strong for an attack. He is about to return to Cairo, to prepare for the despatch of reinforcements of at least one black battalion and more mounted men. The enemy's cavalry are strong and show great courage. The full strength of our mounted men here does not exceed forty mounted infantrymen, who were hastily organized and are very bad riders, at the same time being badly armed with rifles only. It is impossible for them to do cavalry work and stand against the hostile cavalrymen, who are well mounted and fearless, are armed with swords and long spears, and are excellent horsemen. Until Handoub is taken and occupied these attacks on Suakin and the outer forts will constantly occur. The enemy's guns are admirably served and are rifled, firing Armstrong shell; but as they are generally fired at night it is very difficult to get their position and dismount them. The Gemaiza fort is so much damaged by shell fire that the Sirdar has ordered another fort to be built alongside of it, close to the wells.

Bord's Pianos. 25 per cent. discount for cash, or 15s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month) on the three years' system. Illustrated Lists free of CHAS. STILES and CO., 42, SOUTHAMPTON-ROW, HOLBORN, LONDON, W.C. Pianos exchanged.

A DOCTOR ON TRIAL FOR MURDERING HIS WIFE.

ARSENIC ADMINISTERED WITH FOOD.

At Olmütz, in Moravia, yesterday, the trial commenced of a doctor of medicine, Johann Zavadil, aged fifty-two, on a charge of murdering his wife, Francisca, by administering arsenic to her during her last illness. Dr. Zavadil was married in 1867, and had since then, for twenty years, lived most happily with his wife until last year, when he took into his house his niece, a daughter of his wife's sister, between whom and himself illicit relations appear to have immediately sprung up. As early as July, 1887, the doctor commenced habitually administering poison to his wife by mixing arsenic with her food, at first in small quantities, which were afterwards increased. Finally, he gave her arsenic in her medicine, so that she died on the 2nd of August, or within a month of the commencement of the administration of poison. Suspicions did not begin to arise till some time after the funeral, when the servants in the house mentioned that the doctor had kept them away from the sick bed on the ground that his wife had an infectious disease, of which any one approaching her would be sure to die. These rumours caused the authorities to order the exhumation of the body, and the medical examination of the remains which followed proved the presence therein of a large quantity of arsenic. The prisoner pleads not guilty, and asserts that his wife poisoned herself, but the evidence appears conclusive against him.

PARRICIDE BY A GIRL OF FIFTEEN.

A Russian girl, Olga Bardianska, who is not yet fifteen years of age, and a young man, Alexel Navarovicz, a clerk in her father's employ, with whom she had eloped, were on Wednesday arrested at a railway station on the Austrian frontier, not far from Brody, and handed over to the Russian police, who were in pursuit of the fugitive couple. The crime with which the young girl is charged argues a shocking state of depravity and moral callousness. During the night of Friday last she is stated to have crept to the side of the bed in which her father was sleeping, and to have cut his throat from ear to ear with a kitchen knife. This horrible act of parricide she committed out of revenge for the dismissal of her paramour by her father, who had taken that step in order to put a stop to the illicit connection which he discovered had sprung up between them.

GRANTS FOR THE NORTH LONDON TECHNICAL INSTITUTES.

At a meeting of the Court of the Company of Clothworkers, held on Wednesday, it was resolved to contribute £2,500 towards the North London Technical Institutes, to be apportioned as follows:—£2,000 towards an Institute in Islington, where the Company have a considerable estate as trustees of the Packington Charity, as well as their own corporate right; and £500 towards one in Hackney, where they also possess property, limited, however, to specific charitable trusts. It is hoped that this example will be followed by the other City companies and landed proprietors in the four boroughs which constitute the North of London, according to the Charity Commissioners' scheme, so that the £200,000 promised by the Commissioners may be speedily secured.

THE EDUCATION CONFERENCE.

Every day brings to the committee a large number of acceptances of their invitation to the conference on the 20th and 21st inst., so that there is now no doubt of its being largely and influentially attended. Many ladies who are members of school boards, managers or candidates, have expressed their intention to be preseut; while the Congregational Union, Dissenting Deputies, Liberation Society, and many other public bodies and political associations, have appointed delegates. It is also expected that several of the commissioners who signed the Minority Report will attend and take part in the proceedings. At the public meeting in Exeter Hall on the Tuesday evening, at which Mr. Mundella will preside, and Mr. Stansfeld, Mr. Shaw Lefevre, Mr. Burt, Rev. Hugh Price Hughes, and others will speak, the platform will be reserved for members of Parliament and the members of the conference, and the side galleries for ladies, while the other tickets will admit to the whole of the area and end gallery.

ACCIDENT TO SIR WATKIN WILLIAMS WYNN.—A rather serious and alarming accident happened to Sir Watkin Williams Wynn, Bart., at Wynnstay yesterday. Sir Watkin and a party of gentlemen were partridge shooting, when in some inexplicable manner a stray shot penetrated the white of Sir Watkin's eye. The host was at once taken to an occulist at Shrewsbury, who extracted the shot. No dangerous symptoms are feared.

THE FIG HARVEST.—The fig harvest this year has been good, while last year it was very much below the average. The whole crop, that practically supplies Europe and America, and a great part of Asia, is gathered from a strangely limited acreage. The average yield is about 25,000,000 lb. The yield of 1887 was much less. This year it will be a little over average. America is largely increasing her demands, and the London consumption grows more and more important every year. It is the "Lacoum" figs that are sent in greatest quantity across the Atlantic. The whole fig crop is gathered off very classic ground. The gardens lie along the valley of the Meander, and especially round the ruins of Ephesus. Turks and Christians work together side by side, and in perfect amity.

RESTRICTING THE INFLUX OF CHINESE INTO THE AMOOR PROVINCES OF RUSSIA.—The Governor-general of the Russian provinces in the Amoor has had his attention directed to the rapid increase of Chinese immigration, and has made proposals to restrict it. In the years immediately succeeding 1860, comparatively few Asiatic aliens entered the Amoor districts, but now in the Pri-Amoorski district there are 40,000, and in Ussuri 14,000. It is proposed to levy a capitation and income tax on all Chinese and Coreans in Russian territory, to tax separately all industries, and to admit Asiatics to the privilege of Russian subjects only if they become naturalized Russians.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TO-DAY. BAROMETER.

South England (with London and Channel).—Easterly winds; cloudy, rainy, cold.

HIGH WATER London Bridge. Morn. 5 h. 10 m. After. 5 h. 46 m.

THE WIND AT NOON TO-DAY.

SUN Rises 7 h. 11 m. " Sets 4 h. 17 m. MOON—First Qr.) 10th, 4 h. 16 m. Aft.

Noon to-day ← Yesterday

Yesterday → Noon to-day

WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, November 9, 1888.—Dull, overcast; cold wind.

Readings by NEGRETTI and ZAMBRA'S *Instruments.*

MR. GLADSTONE'S RIDE THROUGH THE BLACK COUNTRY.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

BIRMINGHAM, Thursday night.

YOU do not receive inspiration from a ride through the Black Country, even though that ride be on "Carnegie's Coach," as was the fortune of the pressmen this afternoon. But you do get stimulus. The most apathetic of men, going through our experience of to-day, could not fail to realize and recognize that England, despite many memorable strides along the path of human progress, is still, in Shakspeare's phrase, "bound in with shame, with inky blots." This drive, on a bleak, cold, foggy day, was a dangerous adventure from Mr. Gladstone's point of view. Mr. Philip Stanhope and the Countess Tolstoi incurred a grave responsibility in pleading for it, and in carrying it through. But if no physical harm should result therefrom to Mr. Gladstone, every lover of his kind must thank them for an eminent service done to humanity and the country. For the great Liberal Chieftain—the eloquent and ardent preacher of the gospel of "our own flesh and blood"—could scarcely have passed through the striking scenes of wretchedness and squalor which were so plentiful over three-fourths of the route pursued by the procession, without being prompted to a renewed heart-searching consideration of "The Condition-of-England Question," and impelled to resolve that, cost what it might in inconvenience and exertion, he would give an impetus which would stand no staying to the Social Democratic Programme and aspirations which were so warmly endorsed and espoused by the Liberal Convention yesterday. "Alas! poor country, almost afraid to know itself!" "Alas!" no longer; thy sores have been seen, thy cry has been heard by the great physician.

Mr. Gladstone was certainly in a fit frame of mind to receive these impressions. He was less exhausted by his Bingley Hall effort than by his Town Hall speech on the Monday night, and he appeared to enter with a light heart upon the activities of the day. Before he left Birmingham in the forenoon, he had delivered a twenty minutes' speech to a local Irish Nationalist deputation (with whom Lord Spencer familiarly conversed—one of those slight signs of great revolutions which are the most interesting and effective of historical tell-tales), had planted a commemoration tree in the garden of the residence of his host, Sir Walter Foster, and had had his photograph taken in a group with those with whom he had come most intimately in contact during his stay in Birmingham. The "Old Man" was in most lively spirits: his piquant allusions were accompanied by a comical play of the mouth, a jocose gleam in the eyes, a ripple over the face, that would have given new points even to Furniss and to Gould. And he and Mrs. Gladstone left everybody in Birmingham who had been in any way associated with their comfort particularly well pleased with themselves. Mr. Gladstone was so well and happy that on his arrival at West Bromwich railway-station, whence he was to start upon his fifteen-mile drive by road to the residence of Mr. Philip Stanhope, although speaking was contrary to his contract, he gaily reeled off another address in response to the greetings of the Staffordshire Liberal Council and other bodies, one of which was rendered unique by being inscribed on a copper-plate. Then began the drive, towards which the entire population of the Black Country had been looking forward for weeks with a very deep interest. Mr. and Mrs. Gladstone took their place along with Mr. Stanhope and the Countess Tolstoi in an open carriage drawn by four horses, ridden by postilions, and the leading local Liberals, together with Sir Wilfrid Lawson, Sir H. and Lady Hayter, Sir James Carmichael, Mr. Pritchard Morgan, and Sir William Plowden, followed in other carriages. The journalists were accommodated, as we have said, on "Carnegie's coach," thanks to the courtesy of Mr. T. Graham, Mr. Carnegie's old schoolmate and present partner in Midland newspaper enterprises, who had also invited the Rev. Charles Berry, of Wolverhampton, with which town Mr. Graham is closely identified. The procession went at a rapid pace, which the bitterness of the cold quite explained, but still the journey was long, albeit intensely interesting.

Had they known his experiences to-day, Mr. Gladstone's opponents would have rejoiced with a great joy: he was "under a cloud" many times. Happily, it is not my duty at this moment to panoramaize the "gloomy realms" o'er which Smoke is Sovereign, where Nature is blasted and men decay. Enough it is for brief chroniclers to say that as we espied the "spiry flames dart through the rolling smoke," and realized "all the horrors of the world" around, we talked Whistler, sighed with Ruskin, and cursed after the manner of Carlyle. Not a word did we say in commendation of commercial enterprise: not a thought did we expend upon the necessity and the grandeur of Labour. We marked many detestable dwellings—picturesque some, no doubt, but execrable nevertheless all of them; we noted that administrative and artistic abominations abounded, and we sadly read in innumerable cases the records of stolid struggle and slow starvation, through the medium of scantily-clad bodies, thin limbs and pinched faces, and care-moulded brows. This, of course, is only one side of the picture, but, unfortunately, it is the side which gives exceptional character to the physical features of the Black Country. These, however, are reflections on those possessed of leisure, or of wealth, or of commanding influence, not upon the population at large, whose energies have to be undividedly devoted to solving the problem of mere existence for themselves and their families.

It was a triumphal procession, The inhabitants of every house on the route seemed to have come to window or door; and at many places great bodies of enthusiastic spectators lined the roadway on either side. Mr. Gladstone was swept along with a whirlwind of cheering. Of the ordinary forms of disapprobation, we did not note a sign. There was, however, a single illustration of an extraordinary form: Half way on the journey, a big, powerful man stepped towards the carriages, and, emphasizing his utterances with his clenched fist, cried in a desperate, almost distracted, way, "Ruin! ruin! ruin!" Mr. Gladstone, who was most carefully wrapped up in two overcoats, the upper sealskin-lined and cashed, was continually acknowledging, in the most affable manner, by the lifting of his hat, these acclamations of "the common people." "How he did seem to dive into their hearts, with humble and familiar courtesy!" There was not much in the way of decoration: the population is too poor, the resources of the district are too limited. The simplicity of the decorations, however, best proved the sincerity of the people. There were many "Welcomes," and the illustrious visitor was sometimes acclaimed as "the working man's truest friend." Once only did the procession encounter a band. The people did their own demonstrating with great determination and vigour. In proof, we recall the robust young woman who waved over her head a large framed portrait of Mr. Gladstone; the two old ladies who frantically flaunted "Union Jacks;" the determined lady, decked in blue, driving a trap, who was "going to try, anyway!" to pass Mr. Gladstone's carriage; the aged woman who cheered and waved a flag with tremendous energy from her garret window. The babies made a brave show in honour of the presence of the Liberal Leader. I guess that the Registrar-General's next quarterly returns will show an abnormal increase in infant mortality in the Wednesbury district. There were some telling groupings: a working man, his wife and their child, standing in a row on the top of the bow-window of their cottage; old men on sticks, unable to move out of their door-ways; a window, with a bright boy or girl to every pane; two pretty flaxen-haired children seated upon an upper window-sill, clasped from danger in the arms of their mother; a forlorn-looking child seated in the corner of a huge ash-pit. The race of the pit-heap girls deserves a chapter to itself. The resolute effort made by an alert little girl, with bedraggled hair, dirty face, wretched frock clinging closely to her figure, falling stockings, and wrecked boots, to carry forward a girl only slightly less than herself, so that she might have a view of the procession, was worthy of immortalization at the hands of "Dagonet." And who that saw them is likely to readily forget the enthusiastic Irishwomen who, in their glee, literally danced down the road, with their babies held aloft? And where is the hand who can give the great public an adequate conception of Sir Wilfrid's mournful shake of the head when, on his passing the journalists' coach, a bold, bad pressman presented for his special observation a bottle from which all the sherry had run?

At last, after a two hours' drive, we rejoiced in a sight of wood and pasture, even though a heavy mist hung over that wood and pasture. Five miles more brought us to the gates of Wodehouse House, where the inhabitants of Wimborne had assembled in force. "Welcome to our village," hung across an avenue of bare, gaunt trees; a band played, and the people cheered as the squire and his lady drove up with their honoured and distinguished guests. Mr. Gladstone, fortunately none the worse for the adventure, was speedily ensconced in the picturesque mansion; and, satisfied that no device would cause him to quit the house again to-day, the pressmen left a party of villagers of fervour and originality singing around the door with great energy the Liberal chieftain's favourite hymn, "All hail the power of Jesu's name!"

A ROMANTIC TRAGEDY IN ALGERIA.

MESMERIZED AND THEN MURDERED.

A tragedy, which has for many months kept all Algeria in a state of excitement, came before the Constantine assizes yesterday. On January 25 Mdme. Grille, *née* Madeleine Jackson, about thirty years of age, and a member of a highly respectable Protestant family in Paris, was found dead. A young man of twenty-three, Henri Chambige, lay beside her, and stated that they had agreed to die, that he had shot her by her own wish, and that he had then attempted suicide; but the first ball had simply passed through his cheek and the second had only grazed his face. The question which has divided Algeria into two parties is whether this story is true, or whether Chambige, after mesmerizing Mdme. Grille, murdered her, in order that she might never give certain evidence against him.

Prisoner's mother some time ago married M. de Campère, an Algerian functionary. In 1886 Chambige commenced studying law in Paris, where he became intimate with young men fond of psychological subtleties and mesmerism. Towards the end of last year he returned home and made acquaintance with the Grille family. M. Grille is a civil engineer. M. de Campère and his family left for Paris, Mdme. Grille having been requested to guard their house; but Chambige, preferring some excuse, returned to Constantine. M. Grille was called away on the same day. When the latter left, Chambige called on a Frenchman, M. Rieu, begged for a loan of 10,000 f., and spoke of committing suicide if he could not raise the amount. M. Rieu went with him and tried to borrow, but without success.

Subsequently Chambige, after buying a revolver and cartridges, took a cab and called on Mdme. Grille, and the latter accompanied him to his residence, Sidi Mabrouck. Rieu and a friend, M. Lavie, followed them, and were startled by the report of firearms inside the house. On entering it and going upstairs they found that a tragedy had taken place. Mdme. Grille was lying dead, two balls having entered her forehead. Chambige, who was lying on the floor wounded, exclaimed, "I killed her! I killed her! She wished it." A sheet of black-edged paper on the sofa near a half-empty bottle of rum bore the words, "I beg my family to give a good keepsake to my friend Paul Rieu. Pardon, pardon, mother! Embrace the little ones—HENRI." There was not the slightest sign of a struggle. On the arrival of the magistrates Chambige implored them to kill him, declaring that he did not wish to survive Mdme. Grille, and on the surgeon probing his wound he tried to snatch the instrument from him.

He has since written a long statement which reads like a chapter in a Zola novel, the substance of it being that Mdme. Grille was passionately in love with him, and that she had resolved either to elope with him or to die with him. The friends believe that Chambige inveigled her to the house of which he had been left in charge by his stepfather, and that he then mesmerized and killed her. Her character was above all suspicion. Chambige had left with a friend some telegrams and notes purporting to have been addressed to him by Mdme. Grille, some of which imply a guilty passion. The authenticity of them is denied by experts, and the suggestion is that Chambige fabricated them.

There are fifty-eight witnesses, and the trial will last some days.

THE "EXTENSION" OF BRITISH BURMAH.

OUR FORCES ABOUT TO "ANNEX" FIVE MORE STATES.

FROM reliable information to hand by mail from the East, a correspondent informs us that the latest "annexation" project of the Government is not likely to be carried out quite so easily or so quietly as its originators supposed that it would be. There can be no doubt that the forcible occupation of five small States, inhabited by Shans, and situate on the eastern side of the Salween River, is not only altogether unjustifiable, but is most objectionable from all points of view. It is, in the first place, a direct violation of the understanding which has been generally and rightly supposed to exist ever since the annexation of Upper Burmah, namely—that the British rule should in no case be extended beyond the Salween River. As to the title of some of the Shan States on the west side much question was known to exist, these having acknowledged a kind of double allegiance, to Burmah as well as to Siam; but as to that of the Shan provinces on the trans-Salween side, no doubt has ever been raised with even a shadow of foundation. For more than a century, ever since the accession to the throne of Siam of the present dynasty, these States have been admittedly voluntarily subject to the authorities at Chiengmai, as representing the crown of Siam, to which they have accorded their allegiance, peaceably and without interruption, for upwards of a hundred years. A still more important consideration is the fact that, during all this time, the inhabitants of the five States have cherished the most cordial feelings towards the Siamese Government; which is explained by the fact that they were first delivered, and have ever since been protected, from the hated dominion of Burmah by Siam. And now that Great Britain, without even a show of justice, and on the absurd pretext that the Siamese—after an occupation extending over 104 years—"cannot show a good title," is preparing an invasion of these unoffending districts, it can hardly be supposed that the inhabitants will tamely submit to a transfer of their allegiance to a foreign and unknown Power. Nor will they. One of the States in question is already prepared for hostilities, and has a relatively large force under arms at the present moment. The material strength of the five small States in offering any organized resistance in the field to a well disciplined and efficient European army is, of course, small enough; and their eventual subjugation, if this unjustifiable invasion be allowed to take place, ought to be but a question of time. But the Salween River is deep and fast; the country to be occupied is, to a large extent, covered with thick and unhealthy jungle; and the inhabitants have never forgotten their ancient hatred of the Burmese, nor their old training in irregular warfare. Hence a considerable outlay will be necessary to ensure the success of this expedition, and the cost in lives will be as regrettable as it will be wholly purposeless, though possibly it will not be very great. And when all is done, if ever it is done, the British Empire will have added to itself a small and poor district, absolutely without commercial importance, and divided from its only proper base of communication by a formidable natural barrier. More than this, the friendship of the Siamese will have been seriously undermined. Surely all this is enough to make the Government pause. Why should we, regardless of that justice for which we are historically famous, go out of our way to offend a friendly nation for no possible advantage? On all grounds this proposed "extension" of our Empire is to be protested against, and we protest against it with all the vigour which is ours.

OUR FOREIGN TRADE IN OCTOBER.

OUR foreign trade during October has expanded so satisfactorily that the fear occasioned by the September figures that we had begun a retrograde movement has been exploded. The percentage of increase is greater than in any preceding month, both quantities and values having risen. The figures are:—

Imports	£35,022,000	Increase	£4,472,000	or	14½ per cent.
Exports	20,894,000	,,	2,157,000	,,	11½ ,,
Re-exports	5,865,000	,,	524,000	,,	9¾ ,,

We have taken nearly three millions worth more of duty-free articles of food, half of the increase being in wheat. Russia continues to send us enormous quantities, no less than 3,095,000 cwt. having come from that country during October, or nearly one-half of the whole of the wheat imported. Other cereals have also been imported in large quantities. We have taken a good deal more butter, but there is a distinct decline in margarine. Our fruit growers should note that we have received £100,000 worth more of apples. Under the head of dutiable articles there is a decrease in the quantity of tea of no less than 8 1-3 million pounds, and of tobacco of 5½ million pounds, but the consumption at home is nevertheless greater. Copper accounts for fully one-half of our increase of £600,000 under the head of metals. With respect to raw materials for textile manufactures, cotton has fallen off by more than half a million in value, but there is an increase of £820,000 in the raw materials for other industries and manufactures, wood forming an important item thereof. The imports of manufactured articles increased by £669,000. While the imports have varied the exports have increased under every one of the general heads. The largest advance has been in yarns and textile manufactures, particularly cotton, India having purchased more largely. France and the United States have bought much more worsted fabrics than in the corresponding month, but the former country has taken considerably less of woollen fabrics. Of metals and machinery there is an increase of nearly half a million in the aggregate; Russia and India have been considerable purchasers of machinery. Our exports of coal increased by half a million tons in round figures, or 19 per cent. For the ten months of the current year the figures are:—

Imports	£313,636,000;	increase,	£18,682,000,	or	6 1-3 per cent.
Exports	195,125,000	,,	13,289,000	,,	7 1-3 ,,
Re-exports	54,681,000	,,	4,924,000	,,	10 ,,
Total	£563,442,000		£36 895,000		7 per cent.

The total of gold and silver imported during the ten months was £18,358,000, and exported £17.741.000.

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

THEATRE ROYAL DRURY LANE.
(AUGUSTUS HARRIS, Lessee and Manager.)

EVERY EVENING, at 7.30, THE ARMADA.
TO-MORROW (Saturday), at 1.30.
Winifred Emery, Edith Bruce, Kate James, Ada Neilson, and Maud Milton; Leonard Boyne, Luigi Lablache, Edward Gardiner, Victor Stevens, A. Beaumont, Henry Loraine, S. Dawson, Mervin Dallas, Stanislaus Calhèem, B. Robins, F Dobell, Basil West, W. Uridge, F. Harrison, U. Winter, Fitz Davis, W. S. Parkes, H. Denvil, F. Thomas, F. Collings, and Harry Nicholls.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)
Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD.

EVERY EVENING, at 8.45. PRINCE KARL. Mr. RICHARD MANSFIELD as PRINCE KARL (his original character). Preceded at 8 by ALWAYS INTENDED.
MATINEE TO-MORROW (Saturday), at 2.30.
Box-office (Mr. J. Hurst) open daily from 10 to 5.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BEERBOHM TREE.)

70th Performance TO-NIGHT at 8.30 precisely, the new original Drama, by Mr. HADDON CHAMBERS, entitled "CAPTAIN SWIFT." Mr. Tree, Mr. Macklin, Mr. Kemble, Mr. Fuller Mellish, Mr. Allan, Mr. Harwood, Mr. Harrison, and Mr. Brookfield, Lady Monckton, Miss Rose Leclercq, Miss Cudmore, and Mrs. Tree. Preceded, at 7.50, by THAT DREADFUL DOCTOR. Doors open at 7.30. Box-office open daily, 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE TO-MORROW (Saturday), and EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)

BETSY, EVERY EVENING, at 9 with the original cast. Preceded by, at 8.10, THE DOWAGER. Doors open at 7.45. Stage and Auditorium Lighted entirely by Electricity. N.B.—BETSY MATINEE on SATURDAY NEXT, at 3. Doors open at 2.30.

ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. RUTLAND BARRINGTON.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.30, THE DEAN'S DAUGHTER. Misses Caroline Hill, Emily Cross, A. Dairolles, M. Barton, and Olga Nethersole; Messrs. Lewis Waller, J. Beauchamp, E. Sass, Aynesworth, Newall, Fleet, Dodsworth, Trent, Dixon, Montagu, Nutcombe Gould, and Rutland Barrington. At 7.45, A PATRON SAINT. Misses Hermon, Leyshon, Mildmay.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Mr. THOMAS THORNE, Sole Lessee and Manager.)

THIS EVENING at 8.30, JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART. 200th Time. Preceded at 7.45 by THE BROTHERS. Mr. Thomas Thorne; Messrs. William Rignold, Fred Thorne, Cyril Maude J. S. Blythe, Scott Buist, F. Grove, Frank Gillmore, and Mr. H. B. Conway; Mesdames Kate Rorke Gladys Homfrey, M. A. Giffard, Banister, B. Harrison, R. McNeill. Bowman, Adlercron, Maunders G. Arnold, &c. MATINEE of JOSEPH'S SWEETHEART, EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(A. and S. GATTI, Sole Proprietors and Managers.)

THIS EVENING, at Eight, THE UNION JACK. 100th Time. Mr. William Terriss; Messrs. C. Cartwright, J. D. Beveridge, J. L. Shine, L. Cautley, D. Somers, H. Russell, &c.; Miss Millward; Mesdames Dorothy Dene, Louise Brandon, D. Drummond, E. Bufton, and Clara Jecks. At 7.15, THE LOTTERY TICKET.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. EDWARD TERRY.)
(Acting Manager, Mr. H. T. BRICKWELL.)

The safest Theatre in London, constructed entirely with concrete and iron absolutely fireproof, lighted throughout with electricity.

TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A. W. PINERO'S New Three Act Domestic Drama, SWEET LAVENDER. 237th Time. Messrs. Edward Terry, Alfred Bishop, Brandon Thomas, F. Kerr, H. Reeves Smith, Sant Matthews, Prince Miller; Mesdames M. A. Victor, Carlotta Addison, Maude Millett, and Blanche Horlock. Doors open at 8. Carriages 11. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Seats at the Libraries and Box-office, open from 10 to 5. Telephone 2,702.

GAIETY THEATRE.

THIS EVENING, at 7.40, LOT 49, and at 8.30, FAUST UP TO DATE. Miss Florence St. John, Miss Fanny Robina, Miss Jenny M'Nulty, Miss Lillian Price, Miss E. Broughton, Miss M. Jones, Miss F. Levey, Miss A. Young, Miss E. Greville, Miss M. Love; Mr. E. J. Lonnen, Mr. H. Parker Mr. C. Maude, Mr. W. Lonnen, and Mr. George Stone.

GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN LART.)

TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, THE MONK'S ROOM. Messrs. E. S. Willard, Hermann Vezin, Forbes Dawson, Stephen Caffrey, Ivan Watson, Edward Rose, A. J. Byde, Edwin Shepherd, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Helen Leyton, Marion Lea, E. H. Brooke, &c. MATINEE TO-MORROW (Saturday), November 10, at 2.30.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)
(Under the management of Mrs. John Wood.)

EVERY EVENING, at 9.0 (by arrangement with Mr. JOHN HARE), LES SURPRISES DU DIVORCE, adapted by SYDNEY GRUNDY, and entitled MAMMA. Preceded at 8 by BOX AND COX. Doors open 7.45. Box-office open 10 to 10. Telephone 3,031. SPECIAL MATINEES of MAMMA, SATURDAYS, Nov. 17, and Dec. 1 and 15, at 3.

OPERA COMIQUE.
(Lessee and Manager, F. J. HARRIS.)

THIS EVENING, at 8.15, the successful Comic Opera, CARINA. Mesdames Camille D'Arville, Findlay, Ada Dorée, Jessica Dene, Wilmos, Murray, and Alice Lethbridge; Messrs. Durward Lely G. H. Snazelle, E. D. Ward, W. Guise, Eric Thorne, H. Halley, and Charles Collette. At 7.30 THE BLACKSMITH'S DAUGHTER. Doors open at 7.15. Box-office open from 10 till 5. MORNING PERFORMANCE of CARINA TO-MORROW (Saturday, and EVERY SATURDAY. Doors open at 2 o'clock, commence at 2.30. SPECIAL MATINEE of CARINA WEDNESDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open at 2. Acting Manager, DOUGLAS COX.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE, Shaftesbury Avenue.
(Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER.)

OPEN EVERY EVENING, at 8, with AS YOU LIKE IT. Doors open 7.30, commence at 8; carriages 11. Box-office open daily, from 10 to 5. Seats may be booked by letter, telegram, or telephone—No. 3,809. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Manager, Mr. H. WATKIN.)

THIS EVENING, at 8 o'clock, CHASSAIGNE'S New Comic Opera NADGY. Mdlle. Vanoni, Mr. Arthur Roberts, and powerful company. Chorus and Orchestra of 100, conducted by Mr. John Crook. Doors open at 7.30; Box-office open daily from 10.30 to 5 o'clock. Early application is necessary to secure places.—R. D ALBERTSON, Acting Manager.

SAVOY.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. R. D'OYLY CARTE.—TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, the New and Original Opera, in Two Acts, by W. S. GILBERT and ARTHUR SULLIVAN, entitled THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD; or, THE MERRYMAN AND HIS MAID. Preceded at 7.20 by MRS. JARRAMIE'S GENIE. Doors open at 7.0.

SAVOY.—THE YEOMEN OF THE GUARD. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30. Doors open at 2.0.

SAVOY.—SEATS may now be BOOKED THREE MONTHS in ADVANCE. Good seats can be obtained at the box office of the theatre, which is open continuously from 9 A.M. to 11 P.M.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE. Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER. EVERY EVENING, at 7.40. WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF At 8.30, punctually, DOROTHY. (773th Performance.) Mesdames Marie Tempest, Florence Perry, Harriet Coveney, F. Neville, and Amy Augarde; Messrs. Ben Davies, Furneaux Cook, Arthur Williams, I. Le Hay, S. King, and C. Hayden Coffin. Musical Director, M. Ivan Caryll. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open from 10 till 5. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES'.—DOROTHY.—LAST SIX WEEKS at THIS THEATRE, previous to its transfer to the LYRIC THEATRE.

COMEDY THEATRE. — TO-NIGHT, at 9 o'clock, a New Farcical Comedy, in three acts, entitled UNCLES AND AUNTS, by W. LESTOCQ and WALTER EVERARD. Mr. W. S. Penley, Mr. T. G Warren, Mr. Wilfred Draycott, Mr. W. F. Hawtrey, Mr. Walter Everard, and Mr. W. Lestocq. Miss Cissy Grahame, Miss Maria Daly, Miss Caroline Elton, Miss Kate Lee, and Miss Scarlett. Preceded, at 8.10, by BARBARA. Business Manager, Mr. E. F. BRADLEY.

UNCLES AND AUNTS, TO-NIGHT, at 9. MATINEE TO-MORROW (Saturday), at 3 o'clock.—COMEDY THEATRE.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Miss GRACE HAWTHORNE. Manager Mr. W. W. KELLY. CLOSED TO-NIGHT for FINAL REHEARSAL. TO-MORROW, at 7.45 precisely, will be produced a New and Original Drama, by HENRY PETTITT, entitled HANDS ACROSS THE SEA. Messrs. Henry Neville, Robert Pateman, E. W. Garden, W. L. Abingdon, Julian Cross, Bucklaw, Edmund Gurney, H. H. Morell; Misses Webster, Farnard, Vezetelly, and Mary Rorke. New and elaborate scenery by Bruce Smith, Julian Hicks, and Richard C. Durant. Seats at the Box-office (Mr. A. Fryc), open daily from 10 till 5, and the libraries. FIRST MATINEE SATURDAY November 17, at 2.30.

NIAGARA IN LONDON. COLOSSAL PICTURE of the GREAT FALLS, original effects, by PHILIPPOTEAUX. Pleasant Lounge, Music, American Museum, Decorated by Bell. Electric Light. Building warmed. Refreshments by Beguinot. Admission 1s. No fees. 10 to 10.—YORK STREET, WESTMINSTER, St. James's Park Station.

ART GALLERIES.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION SOCIETY.—THE NEW GALLERY, REGENT-STREET, NOW OPEN, 10 to 7. Admission, 1s. CLOSES SATURDAY, December 1. WALTER CRANE, President; ERNEST RADFORD, Secretary.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION SOCIETY.—COURSE OF PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATIONS.—EMERY WALKER: "Letterpress Printing." THURSDAY, November 15, 8.30 P.M.

ARTS AND CRAFTS EXHIBITION SOCIETY.—OPEN EVERY EVENING, 7 to 10 (except Thursdays, and Tuesday, the 13th inst.), from Sat., Nov. 10, to Sat., Dec. 1. ADMISSION, 6d. CATALOGUES, 6d.

GAINSBOROUGH GALLERY. — NOW OPEN, from 10 to 6, for Exhibition of Colossal Picture "H.M. the late EMPEROR FREDERICK III. LYING IN STATE in CASTLE FRIEDRICHSKRON." Admission, ONE SHILLING.

THE

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OF THURSDAY, November 8,

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NOTICES.

Announcements of BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, *and* DEATHS *are inserted for 5s. each. The* PALL MALL GAZETTE *is sent post free for any number of days to any address in the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and all countries in the Postal Union, at the rate of ninepence per week, or 9s. 0d. per quarter. The* PALL MALL BUDGET, *also post free, costs for the United Kingdom 4s. 11d. per quarter; for all countries in the Postal Union 5s. 5d. per quarter; for India and China 6s. per quarter. Apply to the Manager,* PALL MALL GAZETTE, 2, NORTHUMBERLAND-STREET, STRAND, W.C.

THE RUSSIAN OPERA SINGERS.

We have received the following subscriptions to the Fund for the Relief of the unfortunate Russian Opera Singers:—

Messrs. L. and H. Nathan	£1 1 0
Mr. Charles Strachey	0 10 0

WHO PAYS FOR THE PARNELL COMMISSION.

The Lords of the Treasury, at one period of the passage through the House of Commons of the Crimes and Allegations Act, had the intention of defraying the entire costs of the inquiry. The Parnellite party emphatically resisted such a course, and it is perhaps fortunate for the British taxpayer that deference was paid to the desires which were then expressed. The arrangement made by the judges that every morning the counsel on both sides should be presented by the court with a printed verbatim record of the preceding day's evidence and speeches has, however, entailed a certain amount of Treasury expenditure. The estimated cost of the official shorthand writer's notes, with transcription, amounts to about £50 each day the court sits.

HOW DEBATES ARE REPORTED.

"Hansard," that time-honoured symbol of parliamentary reporting, was a subject of debate last night. Everybody knows Hansard, but everybody does not know how that voluminous record is produced. Mr. Hansard has for some time beer granted a subvention to supplement the *Times* report, which is used as a basis, by employing reporters to take those pieces of debate which from their lateness or lack of general interest are omitted by the papers. (The *Times* itself, by the way, enjoys a number of exceptional advantages in the same connection.) It is a distinct step in a politician's career (though often arbitrarily delayed) when he is promoted by the *Times* to the dignity of comparatively full reporting. And even Hansard's has similar distinctions. This is now to be altered. Mr. Jackson announced that "all members are to be proportionately reported," which Mr. Labouchere (who was on the Commission on the subject) explains as recognizing the right of every member to be fully reported "whether he talks sense or nonsense." The new contract may or may not remain with Hansard. It is said that the competition is fierce, the Press Association, for instance, being anxious to secure the laborious but dignified monopoly. Mr. Labouchere stated wrongly that under the new order of things the minimum proportion of any speech to be reported will be three-quarters—a kind of "three-quarter length" photographs of our orators. This would be, if true, an awful prospect. It would mean almost what is termed verbatim reporting. Acres of paper and tons of patience would be wasted. The fixed amount, as a matter of fact, is one-third. Even as it is we may echo Mr. Labouchere's remark that "it is doubtful who will read them."

MR DANA ON THE NEWSPAPER.

1. Get the news, get all the news, and nothing but the news.
2. Copy nothing from another publication without perfect credit.
3. Never print an interview without the knowledge and consent of the party interviewed.
4. Never print a paid advertisement as news matter. Let every advertisement appear as an advertisement; no sailing under false colours.
5. Never attack the weak or the defenceless, either by argument, by invective, or by ridicule, unless there is some absolute public necessity for so doing.
6. Fight for your opinions, but do not believe that they contain the whole truth or the only truth.
7. Support your party, if you have one. But do not think all the good men are in it and all the bad men outside of it.
8. Above all, know and believe that humanity is advancing; that there is progress in human life and human affairs; and that, as sure as God lives, the future will be greater and better than the present or the past.

MR. ARTHUR SEVERN AND PROFESSOR RUSKIN.

The following interesting bit of autobiography appears in the *Westmoreland Gazette* of Saturday:—

"As it has now been definitely settled that I am to have the honour and pleasure of doing a drawing from the 'Brow,' to be presented to Canon Ware on his leaving Kirkby Lonsdale, I should like his numerous friends and admirers, and especially those who have subscribed to the testimonial, to know a little more about me than 'Mr. H. Severn, artist, of Coniston,' as I was described in the *Westmoreland Gazette* the other day in reference to this matter. My name is Arthur Severn, and I live a good part of the year with Professor Ruskin on Coniston Lake, Mrs. Severn being a relation of his. At other times, when he is not abroad, he comes to stay with us near London. I am a member of the Royal Institute of Painters in Water-colours, so I hope the beautiful subject I am about to do may be—at all events—intelligently rendered. Professor Ruskin has twice driven us all the way from London to his house on Coniston Lake, that we might properly enjoy the scenery and objects of interest on the way, and in all that long drive there was no view he showed us with more pride and pleasure than the one from the 'Brow' at Kirkby Lonsdale. He was eager about Bolton Abbey and the junction of the Greta and Tees, and Brignall Banks, &c., but this 'Brow' view—if I may use a slang expression—'took the cake.' Since then I have often been at Kirkby Lonsdale, and was very glad the other day to see that at last the broken crockery and other refuse, so long disfiguring the 'Brow,' had been removed. I shall now have no excuse if the foreground in my drawing is not pretty to look at. P.S.—I was informed yesterday by a man who looked over me when

I was sketching, that the subject would 'bide a deal o' doing,' and I think he was right."

In this narration the *quorum pars magna fui* is just a trifle too evident; but every reader of Mr. Ruskin will remember how in "Fors Clavigera" he described the valley of the Lune at Kirkby Lonsdale as "one of the loveliest scenes in England—therefore in the world." "Whatever moorland, hill, and sweet river, and English forest foliage can be at their best is gathered there; and chiefly seen from the steep bank which falls to the stream side from the upper part of the town itself. There a path leads from the churchyard, out of which Turner made his drawing of the valley, along the brow of the wooded bank, to open downs beyond; a little by-footpath on the right descending steeply through the woods to a spring among the rocks of the shore. I do not know in all my own country—still less in France or Italy—a place more naturally divine, or a more priceless possession of true "Holy Land." Yet Mr. Ruskin had to complain that this glorious spot was defiled by the townspeople, who chose it as a place to deposit their dust heaps, potsherds, and refuse, pitching them "down over the fence among the primroses, and violets to the river, and the whole blessed shore underneath, rough sandstone rock throwing the deep water off into eddies among shingle, was one waste of filth, town drainage, broken saucepans, tannin, and mill refuse." It is a satisfaction to know that all that has been changed; but what about the spiked iron railings and the seats with legs "representing the devil's tail pulled off" which likewise disfigured the foreground of the scene?

TO-DAY'S NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the prices of books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review, should such seem to be necessary.]

I. ART.

BAYLISS, WYKE, F.S.A. "The Enchanted Island." (W. H. Allen and Co.) Pp. 207, cloth.

II.—BIOGRAPHY.

CONWAY, MONCURE DANIEL. "Omitted Chapters of History Disclosed in the Life and Papers of Edmund Randolph." (London: G. P. Putnam's Sons.)

[Randolph was a Governor of Virginia and First Attorney-General United States Secretary of State. Mr. Conway has examined the "traditional effigy" of the "statesman to whom the initiation and ratification of the Constitution were especially due" by the light of new facts and documents; and the result is not only a true portraiture of Randolph, but also an interesting contribution to American history. Pp. 401, cloth.]

MOFFAT, JOHN S. "The Lives of Robert and Mary Moffat." (London: T. Fisher Unwin.)

[The People's Edition of a book that has commended itself to a wide circle of readers; the larger form now being in its sixth edition. This issue contains an admirable portrait and four illustrations, and is very neatly printed and bound. Pp. 314, cloth. Price 3*s.* 6*d.*]

"PROFESSOR WILLIAM GRAHAM, D.D.: Essays, Historical and Biographical." (Nisbet and Co.)

[The sketches contained in this volume are preceded by 44 pages of Personal Reminiscences of Dr. Graham, from the pen of the Rev. William M. Taylor, of New York. The sketches deal with Wiclif, Luther, Calvin, Knox (reformers); St. Columba, Francis Xavier, David Brainerd (missionaries); Milton, Burns (poets); Crichton, Roberston, and Cairns (contemporaries). Pp. 306, portrait. Price 5*s.*]

"MEMOIRS OF ERNEST II., DUKE OF SAXE-COBURG-GOTHA." (Remington and Co.)

[Vols. I. and II. of the Duke's memoirs, embracing the period between 1818 and 1850. To the first volume is prefixed a portrait of Prince Albert—the writer's brother—in his twentieth year. The Duke's own portrait forms the frontispiece to the second volume.]

III. EDUCATION.

FINDLAY, J. J., M.A. "Teaching as a Career for University Men.' (Rivingtons.)

[Mr. Findlay discusses the Nature of Teaching; the Necessity for Apprenticeship; Qualifications and Departments and Grades. Mr. A. Sidgwick, who contributes a Prefatory Note, thinks that until some systematic course of training of teachers is adopted Mr. Findlay's suggestions may prove very useful. Pp. 42. Price 1*s.* 6*d.*]

HARRISON, J. HENRY. "A Complete Course of Volapük." (Librairie Hachette et Cie.)

[This is a second and carefully revised edition of the adaptation of Professor Kerckhoffs's work. An English-Volapük vocabulary has been added. Pp. 250, cloth.]

JULIEN, F. "Zola's 'L'Attaque du Moulin.'" (Librairie, Hachette and Cie.) Pp. 84, cloth.

IV.—ELOCUTION.

BAKER, GEORGE M. "Baker's Dialect Series. (George Routledge and Sons.)

[Messrs. Routledge and Sons have sent us four little sixpenny volumes of recitations (1) in the Negro Dialect, (2) in German, French and Scotch, (3) in the Yankee Dialect, and (4) in the Irish dialect, together with the Army Speaker, a collection of patriotic speeches. These collections should prove a great boon to amateur and professional reciters. They may be obtained bound in one volume for 3*s.* 6*d.*]

GARRY, RUPERT, F.S.L.A. "Garry's Elocutionist." (Marcus Ward and Co.)

[Some selections in prose and verse adapted for recitation and reading. The extracts are most of them new. A brief introduction deals with the elocutionary art. Pp. 247, cloth.]

V. FICTION.

"A NOBODY." "Nobody Knows." (London: Funk and Wagnalls.)

[This volume of sketches is somewhat difficult to classify. It is described on the title-page as "Facts that are not Fictions in the Life of an Unknown." Pp. 290, cloth.]

AUTHOR OF "ZIT AND XOE." "Lady Bluebeard." (Blackwood).

[A novel in two volumes.]

BALGUY, GUY. "The Maids of Dulverton." (Bristol: Arrowsmith.)

[A novelette in one volume. Paper covers. Price 1*s.*]

MULHOLLAND, ROSA. "A Fair Emigrant." (Kegan Paul.)

[A novel in one volume. Pp. 374, cloth. Price 6*s.*]

TO-DAY AND TO-MORROW.

TO-DAY.

Lord Mayor's Banquet, 6.
Balloon Society—Dr. W. O. Perkins on "The Canadian Fisheries Treaty," St. James's Hall, 8.
School Board Election, Chelsea Division—Addresses by Mrs. Webster, Mr. Revell, West London Tabernacle Lecture Hall, 8.30.
International Musical Society, St. James's Hall, 8.
Doll Show in aid of Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond-street.
Miss J. E. Harrison on "Monuments of Ancient Athens," South Kensington Museum, 5.15.
New Shakespeare Society, University College, 8.
London Vegetarian Society, Bermondsey Town Hall, 8.
Nonconformists and School Board Election, Regent's Park Chapel, 5.
Lyndhurst-road Congregational Church, School Board Election, 8.

TO-MORROW.

Concerts—Lambeth Polytechnic, Ferndale-road, People's Concert, Town Hall, Poplar, 8; Jerome Hopkins, Piano Lecture Concert, Bloomsbury Hall, 3; Miss Mathilde Wurm's Pianoforte Recital, Prince's Hall, 4.
Working Men's College, Great Ormond-street—The Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth, on "Cornwall and the Cornish," 8.30.
Clapham Public Library—Meeting in Boys' School-room, Macaulay-road, 4.
Doll Show in aid of Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond-street.

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November 9.—Admission to the concert, distribution of prizes, and sale, 5*s.*; children, half price. November 10.—Admission, 2*s.*; children, half price. Admission each evening at 6 P.M., 1*s.*

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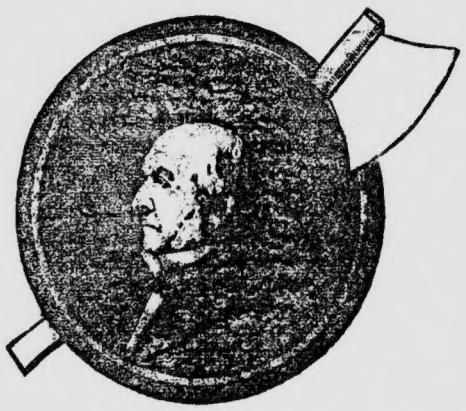

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